U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report 26V070

Manufacturer Name: Daimler Vans USA, LLC
Submission Date: May 05, 2026
NHTSA Recall No.: 26V070
Manufacturer Recall No.: VS2KORSRS

Manufacturer Information

Manufacturer Name: Daimler Vans USA, LLC
Address: One Mercedes-Benz Drive
Sandy Springs GA, 30328

Population

Total number of potentially involved: 52,360
Estimated percentage with defect: 100%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2020-2020 MERCEDES-BENZ METRIS
Product Category: Buses, Medium & Heavy Vehicles
Product Type:
Fuel / Propulsion:
Production Dates: Oct 16, 2019 - Dec 06, 2023
Number of potentially involved: 17,200
Descriptive Information:
The recall population was determined through production records.

Vehicle 2: 2022-2023 MERCEDES-BENZ METRIS
Product Category: Buses, Medium & Heavy Vehicles
Product Type:
Fuel / Propulsion:
Production Dates: Oct 16, 2019 - Dec 06, 2023
Number of potentially involved: 35,160
Descriptive Information:
The recall population was determined through production records.

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

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Mercedes-Benz AG (“MBAG”), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has determined that on certain right-hand-drive Metris (447 platform) vehicles, increased amounts of condensation might accumulate on the outside of the air distribution housing of the air conditioning under certain operating conditions, and seep onto the airbag control unit positioned beneath it.

FMVSS1:

FMVSS2:

Description of the safety risk, including crash, fire, death, injury:

Over time, condensation on the airbag control unit might lead to corrosion in the electrical connector of the control unit. Such corrosion can impair the conductivity of this electrical connection and impede the deployment of the occupant restraint system, increasing the risk of injury in the event of a crash.

Description of the cause:

The volume of condensation that may collect under the specific use case was not anticipated during the development process.

Identification of any warning that can occur:

When the issue occurs, the driver might notice an airbag warning lamp in the instrument cluster. The issue described is not caused by a supplier.

Component Manufacturer

Tier of Supplier:

Supplier Type:

Name:

Address:

Country:

Involved Components

Component Name 1: Protective Cover

Component Description: Protective Cover

Component Part Number: A4478353900

Chronology

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MBAG noticed an increased number of reports relating to the illumination of the airbag warning lamp in delivery operation in August 2024.

A formal technical analysis into the anomaly was initiated in October 2024.

Between October 2024 and February 2025, detailed investigations were carried out on the suspect vehicles and several affected parts from those vehicles were retrieved for analyses. In the course of these investigations, corrosion traces were found on the electrical connectors of the airbag control unit. MBAG theorized that condensation might have formed on the AC air distribution housing and seeped onto the control unit.

To assess this hypothesis, MBAG conducted several environmental tests during the first half of 2025, including tests under different climate conditions, to understand the behavior of affected components under varying environmental and operational conditions.

No anomalies were detected under usage behavior to be expected during regular vehicle operation. Further, condensation could only be proven under extreme conditions.

Starting in June/July 2025, potential impacts were investigated. In particular, this included a study between August and December 2025 that evaluated the progression of corrosive processes without continuous water exposure. Additionally, MBAG was able to reproduce a very specific operation scenario under which the conditions for the formation of a larger volume of condensation can occur.

In parallel MBAG identified potentially affected vehicles and analyzed whether any further vehicles might be affected by the issue.

On January 30, 2026, MBAG determined that a potential safety risk cannot be ruled out and decided to conduct a recall.

MBAG is currently aware of 50 field reports received from June 28, 2021 to May 13, 2025. There are no reports from outside the aforementioned vehicle operation scenario.

After an internal review in May 2026, MBAG identified 8 additional vehicles that were erroneously not included in the campaign due to a data entry error. Consequently, those vehicles have now been added to the existing campaign

Related NHTSA Recall Number:

Description of Remedy

Remedy Type: Repair

Consumer Advisories: ☐ Do Not Drive ☐ Park Outside

Description of remedy program:

An authorized Mercedes-Benz Metris dealer will install a protective cover over the airbag control unit on the affected vehicles.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

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Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:

With the end of production of potentially affected vehicles, this issue can no longer occur from Dec 07, 2023 onwards.

Reimbursement Plan

Manufacturer used general reimbursement plan on file.

Recall Schedule

Description of recall schedule:

Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign on Feb 13, 2026. A copy of all communications will be provided when available. Owners will be notified of the voluntary recall campaign before Apr 3, 2026.

Planned Dealer Notification Date: Feb 13, 2026 - Feb 13, 2026 ☐ No Dealers

Planned Interim Owner Notification Date: Mar 20, 2026 - Mar 20, 2026 ☐ No Owners

Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date: Apr 20, 2026 - Apr 20, 2026 ☐ Phased Recall

Date when VIN will be searchable: Feb 13, 2026