

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

19V-459

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.**Submission Date :** JUN 14, 2019**NHTSA Recall No. :** 19V-459**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.

Address : 13470 International Parkway
Jacksonville FL 32218

Company phone : 1-877-496-3691

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 753

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2020-2020 Mercedes-Benz GLE350 4MATIC

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 167.149 FB4K 237 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside the recall population include a weld to the main floor that meets specification.

Production Dates : JUN 28, 2018 - APR 04, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 4JGFB4KBOLA001346 End : 4JGFB5KEXLA010894 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2020-2020 Mercedes-Benz GLE450 4MATIC

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : 167.159 FB5K 516 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records.

Vehicles outside the recall population include a weld to the main floor that meets specification.

Production Dates : JUN 28, 2018 - APR 04, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 4JGFB4KBOLA001346 End : 4JGFB5KEXLA010894 Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Daimler AG (“DAG”), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has determined that on certain Model Year (“MY”) 2020 GLE-Class vehicles (167 platform) a welding stud on the main floor may not have been welded according to specification. As a result, a small hole may be present in the main floor in the vehicle’s underbody.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the vehicle were to attempt to cross standing water with a height of at least 400 mm (15 inches), some water could enter the vehicle passenger compartment/footwell via the hole in the main floor on the right-side of the vehicle. If sufficient amounts of water enter the vehicle, several electrical contacts (e.g. for combustion engine, lighting, windshield wipers) could be affected, impacting their functionality. Further, a risk of engine stalling cannot be ruled out. This could increase the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : Due to a deviation in the production process, the welding of the stud might not have been carried out according to current production specifications.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The customer may become aware of this issue by fogged windows or a damp floor mat on the right-side. If the water ingress impairs the operation of the electrical system, the instrument cluster will display the corresponding warnings.

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

In the middle of January 2019, while conducting inspections of vehicles on the production line at the Tuscaloosa manufacturing plant, DAG observed a single vehicle that appeared to have an improperly welded bolt. The improperly welded bolt in this vehicle was visually apparent in contrast to the white body frame. To understand whether the welding issue presented a broader concern, DAG initiated a review and in late January 2019, DAG found that the specifications for the welding studs were not set appropriately in some cases. While all vehicles that remained at the production facility were reworked, DAG continued its analysis to understand whether the welding specification used at the plant would have any impact on the performance of the vehicle. Between March and May 2019, DAG conducted various testing and analysis to understand whether water could intrude into the passenger compartment from the imprecise welding, at what level, depth and over what period

of time water ingress was possible and the potential consequences. Although DAG has not received any reports of this issue from the field, on June 7, 2019, it determined that a potential safety risk could not be ruled out.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : As a precautionary measure an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer, will seal the affected welding stud on the affected vehicles.

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 577.11(e), MBUSA does not plan to provide notice about pre-notice reimbursement to owners since all involved vehicles remain covered under the new vehicle warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Vehicles not included in the recall contain bolts in the floor pan that were welded to proper specification.

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Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : A change in the welding process at our plant ensures that this issue can no longer occur from January 21, 2019 onwards.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign in June 21, 2019. A copy of all communications will be provided when available. Owners will be notified approximately one week after recall launch to the dealers in August 13, 2019

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUN 21, 2019 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : AUG 13, 2019 - NR

* NR - Not Reported