

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

20V-672

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Submission Date : DEC 11, 2020

NHTSA Recall No. : 20V-672

Manufacturer Recall No. : 2020110007



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 : 47

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2019-2019 Mercedes-Benz GLA250

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz MY2019 GLA250 47 vehicles. The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population have engine compartment fusebox housings mounted according to current production specifications.

Production Dates : MAY 20, 2019 - MAY 25, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

☐ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Mercedes-Benz AG ("MBAG"), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has determined that on certain Model Year ("MY") 2019 GLA-Class (156 platform) vehicles, the mounting of the engine compartment fusebox housing might not meet current production specifications.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the screw connection securing the engine compartment fusebox housing does not meet current production specifications, the engine compartment fusebox housing could become loose over time, leading to vibrations in the engine compartment fusebox housing. The vibration could lead to excessive mechanical stress and damage to the fuses in the engine compartment fusebox housing causing contact interruption and preventing the availability of certain vehicle functions including engine operation, power steering assist, ESP system, and Active Brake Assist, increasing the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : Due to an incorrect tool calibration in the assembly process, nuts of the screw

connection of the engine compartment fusebox housing might not have been mounted according to current production specifications.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The customer will not receive an advance warning due to the nature of the failure mechanism.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : NR

Component Description : NR

Component Part Number : NR

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Mercedes-Benz AG

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

At the end of May 2019, MBAG launched an initial investigation regarding a potential issue after receiving notification from an employee about the performance of certain torqueing tools used in the assembly process. The analysis indicated that the torque value for the tool was inaccurate and MBAG adjusted the torque parameters.

In July and August 2019, MBAG performed an initial assessment of the topic to understand whether the performance of the tool that the employee reported was limited to an individual tool or group of tools, and the effects of torqueing the engine compartment fusebox screws to the prior torque values.

From September to December 2019, MBAG reviewed the vehicle production that could have been impacted by the performance of the tool and conducted a search in various markets for sample vehicles in the field, which might have been affected by the issue. MBAG analyzed the screw connection tightness in 5 vehicles that it had located and found that the screw connection torque was correctly applied in all 5 cases.

Despite having not identified any abnormalities in these sample vehicles, in March 2020, MBAG decided to continue to assess the topic and perform an analysis of the possible consequences in the event of incorrect screw torque for the engine compartment fusebox housing. This analysis was performed between the spring and summer 2020, and in September 2020, MBAG reviewed the findings. Since an improperly torqued screw connection could become loose over time and internal vehicles had been found with an incorrect torque on the screw connection, the analysis included consideration of whether there was any prior warning to the driver alerting them to an issue with the proper function of the engine compartment fusebox.

On October 23, 2020, MBAG determined that a potential safety risk cannot be ruled out.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : An authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer, will check the mounting of the engine compartment fusebox on the affected vehicles and correct it, if necessary.

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 577.11(e), MBUSA does not plan to provide notice about pre-notice reimbursement to owners since none of the involved vehicles would have been previously subject to the condition described and all remain covered under the new vehicle warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Screw connection of the engine compartment fusebox housing according to the specification

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : A change in the processes and instruction of the staff ensures that this issue can no longer occur from Jun 19, 2019 onwards.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign on November 6, 2020. Owners will be notified of the voluntary recall campaign approximately one week after launch to the dealers on December 11, 2020. A copy of all communications will be provided when available

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 06, 2020 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : DEC 11, 2020 - NR

* NR - Not Reported