

573.6 (c) (6) - Chronology of Events for N503:

A Product Safety and Compliance Committee (PSCC) Investigation was opened on December 03, 2019, following a report of a vehicle fire at the Halewood vehicle assembly plant. The PSCC requested engineering to conduct an investigation, including vehicle testing to replicate the failure and determine the root cause and scope of the issue.

During the 1st half of 2020 the engineering team undertook various experiments to seek to replicate the Halewood incident using testing rigs. Engineering reported back to the PSCC through February and March and informed the committee the failure mode requires a number of unique conditions and failure was not likely during normal vehicle operation. The engineering team also informed the PSCC they were focusing their investigation into the DCDC converter.

In late March 2020, the PSCC requested the engineering team to replicate the issue on a vehicle in order to fully understand the issue and its effects on the vehicle. Concurrently, the PSCC requested the parts supplier to conduct a thorough investigation into the DCDC converter issue.

The engineering team reported back to the PSCC in April and May 2020, where the focus of the investigation into possible causes expanded to several components of the vehicle: the MOSFET, the Battery Energy Control Module (BECM), the Powertrain Control Module (PCM), and the DCDC converter. The engineering team also informed the PSCC of the difficulty in replicating the voltage overload condition known to be required to trigger the cascade electrical failure. The PSCC instructed the engineering team to continue to investigate the possible causes of the issue.

The PSCC reviewed the issue during July, August and September.

The PSCC further reviewed the concern on October 27, 2020, where detailed explanations about the possible causes and analysis on the effects to the vehicle, the scope of the population was discussed. Assessment as to the emergence of any pattern and trend of the issue was also reviewed. Engineering confirmed that all lines of technical investigation had been exhausted, the PSCC progressed the issue to the Recall Determination Committee (RDC).

The RDC reviewed all information available on October 29, 2020 and concluded that the issue represented an unreasonable risk to safety and a voluntarily safety recall be conducted to download the latest software to the vehicles.

There have been a limited number of reports outside of the United States.