

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 21V-102

**Manufacturer Name :** Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC**Submission Date :** MAR 22, 2021**NHTSA Recall No. :** 21V-102**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 2021020037**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 : 36

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2021-2021 Mercedes-Benz GLA250

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

**Descriptive Information :** Mercedes-Benz MY2021 GLA250 36 Vehicles. The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population have front passenger airbags that are grounded according to current production specifications.

**Production Dates :** MAY 15, 2020 - JUL 10, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

**Description of the Defect :** Mercedes-Benz AG, the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has determined that on certain Model Year ("MY") 2021 GLA-Class vehicles (247 platform), the ground connection for the front passenger airbag might not meet current production specifications.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** If the ground connection for the front passenger airbag does not meet current production specifications, an electrostatic charge might not be dissipated as intended, and could lead to an inadvertent deployment of the passenger airbag. Additionally, if a child seat is installed on the front passenger seat though the passenger airbag is correctly deactivated, an inadvertent deployment of the passenger airbag cannot be ruled out.

An inadvertent deployment of the passenger airbag could increase the risk of a crash, or could increase the risk of injury to an occupant seated in the front passenger seat.

**Description of the Cause :** Due to a deviation in the assembly process, the ground connection of the passenger airbag might not be mounted as intended.

**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

**Foreign States**

**Country :** Germany

## Chronology :

In the beginning of July 2020, MBAG launched an initial investigations based on an irregularity found in one of its assembly plants. This irregularity showed an incorrect bolting of the ground connection of the passenger airbag. Further analyses were initiated to evaluate the range of potentially affected vehicles based on the documentation of the bolting in the affected plant. In this course, an alignment with all other potentially affected plants was also performed. The alignment with the other plants concluded that other plants are not affected by this issue. In parallel, the assembly process was adapted to ensure a correct bolting of the ground connection in all assembly plants.

In August 2020, a plant action was initiated to rework all vehicles not yet released. Starting in September 2020, an analysis regarding potential consequences of vehicles in the field was initiated. This analysis included the determination of the direct consequences of an incorrect ground connection and possible consequences of an electrostatic charge that might result in this case as a consequence of an incorrect ground connection.

In February 2021, MBAG determined that a potential safety risk cannot be ruled out and decided to conduct a recall for the potentially affected vehicles.

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : An authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will check the ground connection for the passenger airbag on the affected vehicles and rework 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 : A ground connection that is in within current production specifications.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : A change in the assembly procedure ensures that this issue can no longer occur from August 13, 2020 onwards.

## Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign on March 1, 2021. Owners will be notified of the voluntary recall campaign approximately one week after launch to the dealers on April 23, 2021. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAR 01, 2021 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : APR 23, 2021 - NR

\* NR - Not Reported