

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21V-564

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Submission Date : JUL 23, 2021

NHTSA Recall No. : 21V-564

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Population :

Manufacturer Name : Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Number of potentially involved : 3

Address : 13470 International Parkway

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Jacksonville FL 32218

Company phone : 1-877-496-3691

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2019-2019 Mercedes-Benz G550

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz 2019 G-Class 3 Vehicles

The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population have the fuel tank manufactured according to current production specifications.

Production Dates : FEB 28, 2019 - JUL 04, 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 based on information provided by the fuel tank supplier, the fuel tank on certain Model Year ("MY") 2019 G-Class (463 platform) vehicles might not meet current production specifications.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : In this case, the welding seam where the two halves of the fuel tank are joined might not meet the fatigue strength requirements. As a result, the leak tightness of the tank cannot be ensured over the vehicle's service life. In the event of a fuel leak, according to the assessment of the supplier, the risk of a fire hazard due to an ignition source could increase.

Description of the Cause : Due to a production deviation at a supplier, certain fuel tanks might not meet current production specifications.

Identification of Any Warning : When the issue occurs, the customer might be made aware of the complaint by the smell of fuel and by a flashing check engine indicator light in the instrument

that can Occur : cluster.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Fuel Tank

Component Description : Fuel Tank

Component Part Number : A4634701202

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : MAGNA INTERNATIONAL

Address : 337 Magna Drive

Aurora Ontario Foreign States L4G 7K1

Country : Canada

Chronology :

In mid-January 2021, MBAG received preliminary information from the supplier, which indicated a potential that a specific batch of fuel tanks may not have been manufactured according to specification. MBAG launched a plant action in February 2021. Thereafter, in coordination with the supplier, MBAG launched a technical investigation of the performance of the fuel tanks, including tests with fuel tanks that matched the affected tanks in terms of the incorrect parameterization of the weld joining process. These tests were carried out to analyze the burst pressures of these fuel tanks. Test results were analyzed at a working level throughout Spring 2021, and included a review of the nominal operating pressures of the fuel tank, the specific installation orientation in G-Class vehicles, and the potential effects of the manufacturing deviation to understand whether the performance of the fuel tanks posed a potential safety concern as installed.

In June 2021, MBAG came to the understanding that potentially leaking fuel could not reach hot areas of the exhaust system due to the specific routing of the exhaust system as well as the low operating pressures in the tank system of G-Class vehicles. Furthermore, MBAG is not aware of any customer complaints in connection to this topic.

In early July 2021, NHTSA raised a question about Mercedes-Benz's response to the information from the supplier related to the fuel tanks and the company responded the following week.

MBAG then became aware that the supplier of the fuel tanks had submitted its own defect information report (21E064) stating that according to the supplier's assessment, the risk of a fire hazard due to an ignition source could increase. Based on the supplier's assessment, on July 16, 2021, MBAG determined that a potential safety risk cannot completely be ruled out and decided to conduct a recall.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : An authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will replace the fuel tank 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 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 : Fuel tank according to specifications.
Remedy Part No:
Fuel Tank A4634701202

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : A change in the production procedure of MBAG's supplier ensures that this issue can no longer occur from July 05, 2019 onwards.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign on July 30, 2021. Owners will be notified of the voluntary recall campaign before September 21, 2021.

.A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUL 30, 2021 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : SEP 21, 2021 - NR

* NR - Not Reported