

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21V-834

Manufacturer Name : Tesla, Inc.
Submission Date : DEC 15, 2021
NHTSA Recall No. : 21V-834
Manufacturer Recall No. : SB-21-20-006

**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Tesla, Inc.
Address : 3500 Deer Creek Road
 Palo Alto CA 94304
Company phone : 650-413-4000

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 2
Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2020-2021 Tesla Model 3

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population includes two select Model 3 vehicles, one built on September 20, 2020 and one built on December 20, 2020, and was determined based upon a review of manufacturing records.

Production Dates : SEP 20, 2020 - DEC 30, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : The curtain side airbag is secured to the vehicle interior roof rail at six individual attachment points. A rotation from one attachment point to the next will induce a twist in the airbag, which can have an adverse effect on performance.

FMVSS 1 : 214 - Side impact protection

FMVSS 2 : 226 - Ejection mitigation

Description of the Safety Risk : A twisted curtain side airbag may not deploy properly in a collision, which could increase the risk of occupant ejection or injury.

Description of the Cause : Improper securement of the left- or right-curtain side airbag to the interior rail roof during production.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : M3 - CURTAIN A/B, LH

Component Description : Left side curtain side airbag for Model 3

Component Part Number : 1077827-00-E

Component Name 2 : M3 - CURTAIN A/B, RH

Component Description : Right side curtain side airbag for Model 3

Component Part Number : 1077828-00-E

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

- Beginning on or about August 17, 2021, the Factory Quality team detected a twisted right-hand curtain side airbag on a U.S. Model 3, using the automated vision system on the manufacturing line. The Production Quality and Process Engineering team confirmed that a non-conformance was generated to inspect and, if necessary, repair the twisted condition. The non-conformance was reported as closed prior to factory gating.
- The Production Quality and Process Engineering team commenced an engineering study to confirm production records of the Model 3. Tesla Service inspected the vehicle and discovered a twisted right-hand curtain side airbag. The team determined that the non-conformance on the vehicle was closed without a full repair and repair confirmation.
- From late August to October 2021, the team conducted an investigation into all Model 3 production records, including images captured by vision inspection, repair records and repair confirmation notes. This investigation identified two additional VINs in the U.S., the records from which Tesla could not conclusively determine the left- and right-curtain side airbags were not twisted.
- On October 18, 2021, a recall determination was made.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Tesla Service will inspect the vehicles for proper alignment and orientation of the left- and right-curtain side airbag. If a twist or other condition is identified with either curtain side airbag, Tesla Service will realign the airbag to correct specification.

Tesla does not plan to include a statement in the Part 577 owner notification about pre-notice reimbursement to owners since all of the involved vehicles remain covered under the new vehicle warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy component will be installed and secured without the presence of a twist.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : production stand-down was held with production employees to review the twist condition as well as the sequence for properly installing the curtain side airbag, and with factory repair technicians to review the non-conformance closure as well as the sequence for properly inspecting, repairing and confirming repair prior to closure of the non-conformance. In addition, we are currently conducting daily reviews of any non-conformance of the side curtain airbag that the automated vision system detects.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : All Tesla stores and service centers will be notified on or shortly after October 27, 2021. Owner notification letters will be mailed in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 577.7.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : OCT 27, 2021 - OCT 27, 2021

Planned Owner Notification Date : DEC 24, 2021 - DEC 24, 2021

* NR - Not Reported