

Chronology of Defect/Noncompliance Determination

In September 2018, MBAG acted in response to a report from the supplier, who had discovered the subject condition in a standard validation test of parts. First analyses indicated vibrations of the wiring harness to be an issue. To eliminate the possibility of excess vibrations of the wiring harness, MBAG asked the supplier to develop a fix immediately. As a preventive measure, the supplier implemented a cable retainer to secure the wiring harness. MBAG reviewed logistics documents together with the supplier to determine which vehicles might potentially be affected. The review determined that all potentially affected vehicles remained in MBAG's control. MBAG reworked all potentially affected vehicles (installing the cable retainer) that were in access by the end of 2018. In the beginning of 2019, the company assumed that all potentially affected vehicles had been reworked and no unreworked vehicles had been released from the plant.

In the course of a standard review of prior plant actions in February 2020, it was detected that some potentially affected vehicles may have left the plant without being reworked. Further analyses to determine which vehicles had reached the field and possible consequences in the field were initiated. From March to June 2020, MBAG operations were severely restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As operations began to resume in June 2020, the issue was considered to occur at a later point of time in the vehicle's lifetime.

In August 2021, after continuous field monitoring, no cases from the field were detected. Analyses resumed again and in December 2021, possible consequences during the lifetime of the vehicles were finally determined. It could not be ruled out with certainty that in a very unlikely case due to an unfavorable combination of cable routing and driving situation, the described issue could potentially occur over the lifetime of the vehicle.

On February 11, 2022, MBAG determined that a potential safety risk cannot be ruled out and decided to conduct a recall.