

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 23V-732

**Manufacturer Name :** Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC**Submission Date :** NOV 01, 2023**NHTSA Recall No. :** 23V-732**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**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 : 42,742

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2019-2020 Mercedes-Benz A 220

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz A-Class 22,434. The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population are equipped with a brake inspection gauge and respective owner's manual information that conforms to the standards set forth in FMVSS 135 S5.1.2.

Production Dates : AUG 20, 2018 - MAY 15, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2020-2020 Mercedes-Benz CLA 250

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz CLA 8,952. The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population are equipped with a brake inspection gauge and respective owner's manual information that conforms to the standards set forth in FMVSS 135 S5.1.2.

Production Dates : AUG 20, 2018 - MAY 15, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2021-2021 Mercedes-Benz GLA 250

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz GLA 478. The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population are equipped with a brake inspection gauge and respective owner's manual information that conforms to the standards set forth in FMVSS 135 S5.1.2.

Production Dates : AUG 20, 2018 - MAY 15, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2020-2020 Mercedes-Benz GLB 250

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz GLB 9,881. The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population are equipped with a brake inspection gauge and respective owner's manual information that conforms to the standards set forth in FMVSS 135 S5.1.2.

Production Dates : AUG 20, 2018 - MAY 15, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 5 : 2020-2020 Mercedes-Benz AMG A 35

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Mercedes-Benz A-Class 159 The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population are equipped with a brake inspection gauge and respective owner's manual information that conforms to the standards set forth in FMVSS 135 S5.1.2.

Production Dates : AUG 20, 2018 - MAY 15, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 6 : 2020-2020 Mercedes-Benz AMG CLA 45

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

**Descriptive Information :** Mercedes-Benz CLA 147 The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population are equipped with a brake inspection gauge and respective owner's manual information that conforms to the standards set forth in FMVSS 135 S5.1.2.

Production Dates : AUG 20, 2018 - MAY 15, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 7 : 2020-2020 Mercedes-Benz AMG CLA 35

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

**Descriptive Information :** Mercedes-Benz CLA 691 The recall population was determined through production records. Vehicles outside of the recall population are equipped with a brake inspection gauge and respective owner's manual information that conforms to the standards set forth in FMVSS 135 S5.1.2.

Production Dates : AUG 20, 2018 - MAY 15, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

## Description of Noncompliance :

**Description of the Noncompliance :** Mercedes-Benz AG ("MBAG"), the manufacture of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has determined that certain Model Year ("MY") 2019-2021 A-Class, CLA, GLA and GLB (177, 118, 247 platform) vehicles might not be equipped with the inspection gauge for checking the wear of the rear axle brake pads. Furthermore, the respective information for using this inspection gauge might not be included in the owner's manual.

FMVSS 1 : 135 - Light vehicle brake systems

FMVSS 2 : NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** Due to the brake force distribution, the brake pads on the front axle will always wear out sooner than the rear axle brake pads. The potentially affected vehicles are equipped with an electronic wear sensor on the front axle. If the brake pads thickness decreases below a certain level on the front axle, the driver will be informed that the brake pads need to be replaced by the permanently lit warning lamp and warning message "Check brake pads. See Owner's Manual" in the instrument cluster. This warning message will appear at the beginning of each driving cycle until new brake pads are installed. The above mentioned permanently lit warning lamp cannot be turned off by the driver and is only deactivated after the brake pads have

been replaced. Even if the brake pads on the front axle fall below the threshold level, the brake pads on the rear axle continue to have sufficient thickness. Once the vehicle is taken to the workshop, the brake pads on the rear axle will also be inspected and replaced, if necessary.

Due to the force distribution of the brake system, it can be ruled out that the brake pads on the front axle reach the wear limit before the brake pads of the rear axle reach their wear limit.

In addition, internal vehicle tests have shown that even with completely worn brake pads on the rear axle, the potentially affected vehicles will still meet the legal performance requirements for stopping distance in accordance with the FMVSS 135, S7.5.3. The electronic driving safety systems (ABS, ESP, etc.) would continue to function as intended in this case.

If an increased wear on the brake pads on the rear axle is not identified, this might increase the risk of a crash.

**Description of the Cause :** Due to a documentation error in the production control system, the potentially affected vehicles might not be equipped with the inspection gauge for checking the wear of the rear axle brake pads and the respective information in the owner's manual might be missing.

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** The driver will not receive a warning due to the nature of the failure mechanism.

## Involved Components :

**Component Name 1 :** Gauge

**Component Description :** Gauge

**Component Part Number :** A0005830642

**Component Name 2 :** Supplementary Booklet

**Component Description :** Owner's Manual Supplement Booklet

**Component Part Number :** A1185846304

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

**Name :** MBAG

Address : NR  
NR  
Country : NR

## Chronology :

In February 2020, MBAG after sales department was first made aware through internal analyses for quality assurance that the inspection gauge for checking the wear of the brake pads on the rear axle and the respective information in the owner's manual for using this inspection gauge may not have been provided with certain vehicles.

MBAG initiated a technical investigation, including the potential impact of not including the wear inspection gauge.

During the analysis process, MBAG investigated potential technical impacts of the described issue in connection with the conditions of the braking system. MBAG found that, due to the brake force distribution, the brake pads on the front axle wear out sooner than the rear axle brake pads. The potentially affected vehicles are equipped with an electronic wear sensor on the front axle. If the brake pads thickness falls below a certain level, the driver will be informed that the brake pads need to be replaced by the permanently lit warning lamp and warning message "Check brake pads. See Owner's Manual" in the instrument cluster. In this case, the brake performance would still not be impaired. Once the vehicle is taken to the workshop, the brake pads on the rear axle will also be checked and replaced, if necessary. In addition, internal vehicle test data was analyzed. This analysis showed that even with completely worn brake pads on the rear axle, the potentially affected vehicles would still meet the legal performance requirements for stopping distance in accordance with the FMVSS 135, S7.5.3. Furthermore, the force distribution of the brake system prohibits that the brake pads on the rear axle could reach the wear limit before the brake pads of the front axle reach their wear limit.

Please see chronology supplement.

## Description of Remedy :

**Description of Remedy Program :** An authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will add the inspection gauge and enclose the supplemental owner's manual information for using this inspection gauge 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 :** An inspection gauge for checking the wear of the brake pads on the rear axle and supplemental owner's manual information for using this inspection gauge.  
Gauge - A0005830642  
Supplementary Booklet - A1185846304

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : A change in the documentation of the production control system ensures that this issue can no longer occur from May 18, 2020 onwards.

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign on November 8, 2023. Owners will be notified of the voluntary recall campaign before December 31, 2023. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 08, 2023 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : DEC 31, 2023 - NR

\* NR - Not Reported