

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 18V-288

**Manufacturer Name :** Daimler Vans USA, LLC**Submission Date :** MAY 03, 2018**NHTSA Recall No. :** 18V-288**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

**Manufacturer Name :** Daimler Vans USA, LLC  
**Address :** 303Perimeter Center North  
 Suite 202 Atlanta GA 30346  
**Company phone :** 8548883214

**Population :**

**Number of potentially involved :** 153  
**Estimated percentage with defect :** 5 %

**Vehicle Information :**

**Vehicle 1 :** 2017-2017 Mercedes-Benz Sprinter  
**Vehicle Type :** BUSES, MEDIUM & HEAVY VEHICLES  
**Body Style :** VAN  
**Power Train :** DIESEL

**Descriptive Information :** The recall population refers to the NAFTA Sprinter vehicles (Platform 906) from the Ludwigsfelde plant, produced between September 11, 2017 (restart after block break) and October 11, 2017 (discovery in plant).

A further filtering of the potentially affected vehicles based on the programming of the welding robot could not be made, neither by Daimler nor by the supplier of the welding robots.

Other NAFTA Sprinter vehicles (Platform 906) have already been equipped correctly with the necessary spot welds and have been produced outside the affected production period September 11, 2017 and October 11, 2017.

**Production Dates :** SEP 11, 2017 - OCT 11, 2017**VIN Range 1 : Begin :**

NR

**End :** NR Not sequential

**Vehicle 2 :** 2017-2017 Feightliner Sprinter  
**Vehicle Type :**  
**Body Style :**  
**Power Train :** NR

**Descriptive Information :** The recall population refers to the NAFTA Sprinter vehicles (Platform 906) from the Ludwigsfelde plant, produced between September 11, 2017 (restart after block break) and October 11, 2017 (discovery in plant).

A further filtering of the potentially affected vehicles based on the programming of the welding robot could not be made, neither by Daimler nor by the supplier of the welding robots.

Other NAFTA Sprinter vehicles (Platform 906) have already been equipped correctly with the necessary spot welds and have been produced outside the affected production period September 11, 2017 and October 11, 2017.

Production Dates : SEP 11, 2017 - OCT 11, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Daimler AG (DAG), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz Vans, has determined that on certain Mercedes-Benz and Freightliner Sprinter vehicles for the NAFTA market, spot welds might be missing on the front side wall on the driver and the passenger side. The affected spot welds connect the door portal with the underlying hinge reinforcements behind.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : In the event of a crash, it cannot be ruled out that there may be a negative impact on vehicle safety due to the missing welding spots. Further, the durability of the vehicle over its lifecycle may be affected.

Description of the Cause : During the preparatory work on the production systems for the subsequent model series, a programming error occurred with two welding robots. Spot welds on the front side wall paneling may not have been set as a result of the programming error. As a consequence, the integrity of the weld, which connects the door portal with the underlying hinge reinforcements in the area of the A-pillar and the reinforcement of the closing eyelet in the area of the B-pillar, is not ensured.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : KUKA Aktiengesellschaft

Address : Zugspitzstraße 140  
Augsburg 86165

Country : NR

## Chronology :

Daimler AG became aware of this issue in October 2017 through a report from the Ludwigsfelde production plant.

Upon identification, analysis and evaluation as to the root cause and impact of this issue were commenced.

On April 27, 2018, Daimler AG decided to initiate a recall campaign based on the results of the preceding analysis and evaluation.

To date Daimler AG is not aware of any customer complaints concerning this matter.

## Description of Remedy :

**Description of Remedy Program :** An authorized Mercedes-Benz or Freightliner Sprinter dealer will perform a visual inspection and check if any of the welds on the A-pillar are missing. If necessary, the affected vehicles will be reworked by setting the missing weld spots at the front side wall panelling.

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 577.11(e), Daimler Vans does not plan to provide notice about pre-notice reimbursement to owners since all involved vehicles remain covered under the new vehicle warranty.

**How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :** Mercedes-Benz and Freightliner Sprinter vehicles (Platform 906) will be equipped with the necessary spot welds on the front side wall on the driver and the passenger side.

**Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** A 100% visual inspection as well as the inspection of the factory inventory at the Ludwigsfelde plant were carried out immediately after the facts had been identified. Furthermore, a correction of the robot programming was implemented immediately after detection of the issue.

## Recall Schedule :

**Description of Recall Schedule :** Owners will be notified approximately one week after the recall launch to the dealers.

**Planned Dealer Notification Date :** JUN 28, 2018 - JUN 28, 2018

**Planned Owner Notification Date :** JUN 29, 2018 - JUN 29, 2018

\* NR - Not Reported