

**MASERATI****Defect Information Report**

Maserati S.p.A. has determined that a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain model year 2014 Maserati Quattroporte GTS V8 vehicles. Maserati North America, Inc. (MNA) is providing this notification to your office in accordance with **49 C.F.R. Part 573**.

Maserati S.p.A. and MNA has determined that the above described vehicles, were potentially manufactured with a defective alternator-starter motor wiring harness, specifically the wiring reflex (protective) sleeve located on the outside of the plastic cover of the Y connection crimp (the Y connection provides a power split for the alternator and starter motor circuits).

A defective crimp at the Y connection can lead to the battery positive cable shorting to ground with the cable eventually overheating, melting and possibly resulting in an engine compartment fire. If the vehicle is being operated at the time of this short to ground episode, vehicle electrical power loss will occur with the possibility of the driver losing control of the vehicle, and increasing the risk of a crash.

As noted below, a total of **63** vehicles have been sold or leased to customers, and thus this notification relates only to those vehicles.

The information, to the extent currently available to MNA –follows:

1. **Manufacturer's Name and Address.**

Maserati North America, Inc.
250 Sylvan Avenue
Englewood Cliffs, N.J. 07632

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2. Identification of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect.

The affected vehicles consist of certain model year 2014 Maserati Quattroporte GTS V8 vehicles. Please refer to the attached draft bulletin which includes the affected VIN's.

3. Total Number of Vehicles.

The total population of model year 2014 Maserati Quattroporte GTS V8 vehicles potentially in the affected VIN range is **63** that have been sold or leased to customers.

4. Approximate percentage of vehicles Estimated to Contain the Defect.

Potentially 100% of all units within the affected VIN range may contain the defect.

5. Description of the Defect.

The defect has been identified as an improper Y connection crimp of the alternator-starter motor wiring harness, specifically the wiring reflex (protective) sleeve located on the outside of the plastic cover of the Y connection crimp. The wiring harness to the alternator-starter motor is directly connected to the battery positive terminal and provides electrical supply to the alternator and starter motor assemblies. An improper crimp at this location can result in a battery short to ground, overheated wiring harness, melting cable, loss of vehicle electrical supply and a possible loss of vehicle control, increasing the risk of a crash.

6. Chronology of Events leading to this Defect Determination.

Maserati S.p.A. received notification from one (1) field report and was confirmed by the supplier's material/component analysis, subsequent identification and verification of the failure. Please note that there have been no reports of this condition on any U.S. customer vehicle, however, through an abundance of caution Maserati is launching this recall campaign.

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7. Test Results and Other Information.

Supplier test results indicated an improper crimp at the battery cable wiring reflex (protective) sleeve located on the outside of the plastic cover of the Y connection for the alternator-starter motor wiring harness.

8. Description of Proposed Remedy.

The remedy for the affected vehicles involves the replacement of the alternator-starter motor wiring harness. The remedy procedure may require up to 3 hours to complete, and will be performed free of charge to the vehicle owner.

MNA anticipates that an adequate inventory of replacement alternator-starter motor wiring harnesses will be available in approximately 30 days. All customers for whom this remedy is required, and our dealers, will receive notification of the remedy campaign. MNA intends to send customer notification letters to each owner of an affected vehicle by mail to inform the customer of the problem, and advise the customer to contact their local authorized Maserati Dealer to schedule an appointment to repair the affected vehicle.

Because all of the vehicles that potentially have the defect are 2014 models, all of the affected vehicles are currently under warranty, and no customers would have incurred any costs to obtain a pre-notification remedy of this defect. Accordingly, MNA requests that it be excused from the requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 573.6(c)(8), 573.13, and 577.11 to provide notification to owners that they may be eligible for reimbursement of the costs of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of this defect. 49 C.F.R. § 573.13(d) permits manufacturers to “exclude reimbursement for costs incurred within the period during which the manufacturer’s original or extended warranty would have provided for a free repair of the problem addressed by the recall, without any payment by the consumer.” In addition, 49 C.F.R. § 577.11(e) contemplates that, upon written request by the manufacturer, NHTSA may determine that the manufacturer is not required to provide notification concerning reimbursement for pre-notification remedies because all covered vehicles are under warranty. Thus, MNA’s request to be excused from the obligation of specifying a reimbursement program in this report, and of providing notification to owners concerning it, is consistent with the regulations governing reimbursement for pre-notification remedies.

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9. Campaign Schedule and Draft Notices.

MNA expects to begin customer notification within 30 days of this notification to NHTSA as well as additional dealer materials including a draft copy of the recall campaign instruction bulletin. MNA has assigned this campaign an internal Maserati number of **233**.

10. Representative Copies of Notifications that Relate to the Defect and Have Been Sent to More than One Manufacturer, Distributor, Dealer, or Purchaser.

There are no notices, bulletins or other communications that relate directly to the defect and have been sent by MNA to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser.

Should you have questions concerning this submission, please contact me at your earliest convenience at 201-816-2638.

Sincerely,

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