



John R McDonald

Head of Vehicle Safety and Regulatory Compliance –
North America

August 30, 2021

Dr. Steven Cliff, Acting Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Recall 21V-614 (2014 – 2021 MY Maserati Quattroporte and Ghibli vehicles) (2017 – 2021 MY Levante vehicles), Airbag warning label noncompliance per Federal Motor Vehicle Standard 208 Petition for Determination of Inconsequential Noncompliance.

Dear Dr. Cliff:

Maserati North America, Inc. ("MNA") is a Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business at 1 Chrysler Drive, Auburn Hills, MI 48326.

Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 556, MNA is petitioning for an exemption from the notification and remedy requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act because the noncompliance described below is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety.

This petition relates to MNA's safety noncompliance vehicle recall 432 (NHTSA recall 21V-614). Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard ("FMVSS") 49 CFR 571.208, S4.5.1 (b) (2) requires manufacturers to provide a sun visor airbag warning label permanently affixed to either side of the sun visor, at each front outboard seating position that is equipped with an inflatable restraint. For Maserati vehicles, the airbag warning labels are positioned and affixed on the headliner and not the sun visor. The airbag warning label is not visible when the sun visor is in the stowed position.

On August 5, 2021, the Noncompliance Information Report was submitted to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration ("NHTSA") after MNA determined that approximately 14,060 Maserati Quattroporte vehicles built between April 30, 2013 and July 13, 2021, approximately 42,013 Maserati Ghibli built between April 30, 2013 and July 13, 2021, and approximately 22,515 Maserati Levante vehicles built between May 05, 2016 and July 13, 2021 had airbag warning labels placed on the headliner rather than the sun visor. A copy of MNA's Part 573 Noncompliance Information Report is attached.

Description of the Noncompliance

MNA has determined that 2014 - 2021 MY Maserati Quattroporte and Ghibli vehicles and 2017 – 2021 MY Maserati Levante vehicles have airbag warning label positioned incorrectly resulting in 49 CFR 5710.208 (FMVSS 208), S4.5.1 (b) noncompliance that requires a permanently affixed airbag warning label to either side of the sun visor, at the manufacturer's option, at each front outboard seating

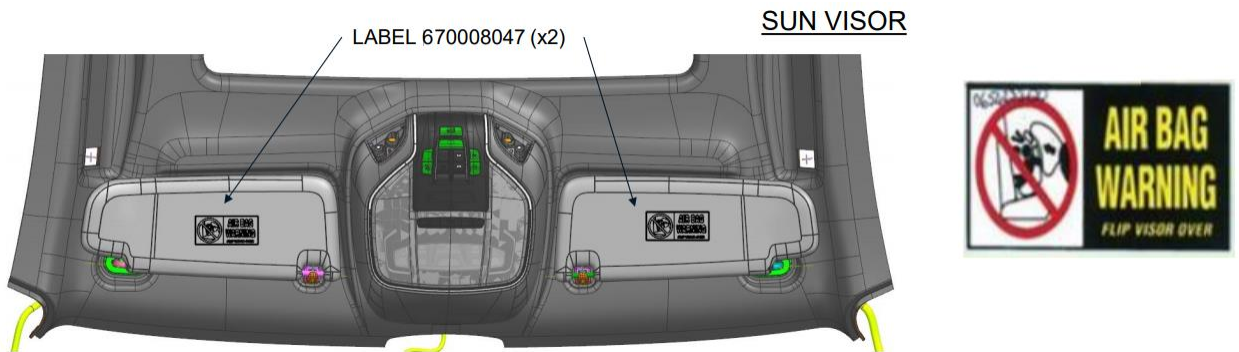


position that is equipped with an inflatable restraint. For Maserati vehicles, the airbag warning labels are positioned and affixed on the headliner and not the sun visor.

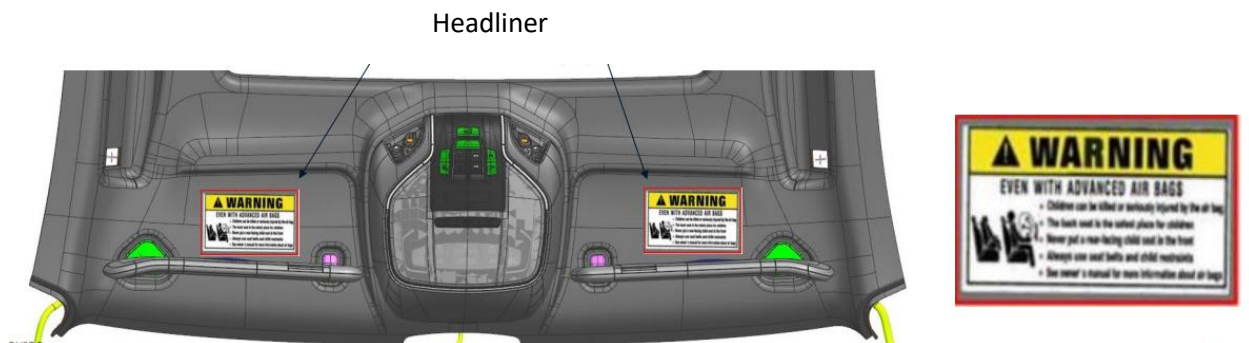
Justification for Petition for a Determination of Inconsequentiality

For the reasons discussed below, MNA submits that this technical noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety:

- An airbag alert label is affixed on the sun visor informing the passenger to flip the sun visor to the down position for the warning label to be visible.



- The airbag warning label is affixed to the headliner where the label is clearly visible on the headliner with the sun visor in the down position.



- A label on the headliner, in combination with the airbag alert label, provides a prominent display of the airbag warnings as intended by FMVSS 208. The NHTSA has recognized the headliner as an effective location for safety warning labels as indicated in its 2016 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NPRM") on Vehicle Defect Reporting Requirements (NHTSA-2015-0096). The NHTSA assesses



the suitability of the headliner for safety warning labels in Section IV, Alternatives Considered and Proposed for the Label, and finds the headliner to be an effective location for a safety warning label. “The agency also recognizes that the headliner above the sun visor may have similar benefits to the visor without some of the disadvantages of the visor.”[Page 17 of NPRM] In assessing the headliner for the placement of a defect reporting label the NHTSA determined “Like the sun visor, the headliner is a relatively accessible and prominent location, being in front of the vehicle occupants and not far from eye level. A label on either the headliner or the “back” side of the visor would only be visible when the visor was in the “open” (not stowed) position.”[Page 16 of NPRM]

- MNA is not aware of any crashes, injuries, or customer complaints associated with this condition.

It is the belief of MNA that the information described above satisfies the intent of 49 CFR Part 556 and operators can safely utilize their vehicles for intended purposes. MNA believes that, pursuant to 49 CFR Part 556, 49 USC 30188(d) and 30120(h), the FMVSS 208 S4.3.1, this airbag warning label noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety and MNA should be exempted from the notification and remedy requirements of 49 USC Chapter 301, “Motor Vehicle Safety” for the reasons supporting exemption cited above.

Sun visor airbag warning labels for vehicles manufactured in the plant are being updated to reflect the correct position of the label on the sun visor.





Sincerely,

John R. McDonald

Enclosures

CC: Enforcement_Correspond@dot.gov
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Alex.Ansley@dot.gov



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Head of Vehicle Safety and Regulatory Compliance –
North America

January 13, 2022

Dr. Steven Cliff, Acting Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Recall 21V-614 (2014 – 2021 MY Maserati Quattroporte and Ghibli vehicles) (2017 – 2021 MY Levante vehicles), Airbag warning label noncompliance per Federal Motor Vehicle Standard 208 Amended Petition for Determination of Inconsequential Noncompliance.

Dear Dr. Cliff:

Maserati North America, Inc. (“MNA”) is a Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business at 1 Chrysler Drive, Auburn Hills, MI 48326.

Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 556, MNA previously petitioned for an exemption from the notification and remedy requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act because the noncompliance described below is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety.

This petition relates to MNA’s safety noncompliance vehicle recall 432 (NHTSA recall 21V-614). Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (“FMVSS”) 49 CFR 571.208, S4.5.1 (b)(3) requires manufacturers to provide a sun visor airbag warning label permanently affixed to either side of the sun visor, at each front outboard seating position that is equipped with an inflatable restraint. For Maserati vehicles, the airbag warning labels are positioned and affixed on the headliner and not the sun visor. The airbag warning label is not visible when the sun visor is in the stowed position. The original petition, dated August 30, 2021, erroneously referenced Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (“FMVSS”) 49 CFR 571.208, S4.5.1 (b)(2) instead of 49 CFR 571.208, S4.5.1 (b)(3). There are no further changes to the original petition.

On August 5, 2021, the Noncompliance Information Report was submitted to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (“NHTSA”) after MNA determined that approximately 14,060 Maserati Quattroporte vehicles built between April 30, 2013 and July 13, 2021, approximately 42,013 Maserati Ghibli built between April 30, 2013 and July 13, 2021, and approximately 22,515 Maserati Levante vehicles built between May 05, 2016 and July 13, 2021 had airbag warning labels placed on the headliner rather than the sun visor. A copy of MNA’s Part 573 Noncompliance Information Report is attached.

Description of the Noncompliance

MNA has determined that 2014 - 2021 MY Maserati Quattroporte and Ghibli vehicles and 2017 – 2021 MY Maserati Levante vehicles have airbag warning label positioned incorrectly resulting in 49 CFR

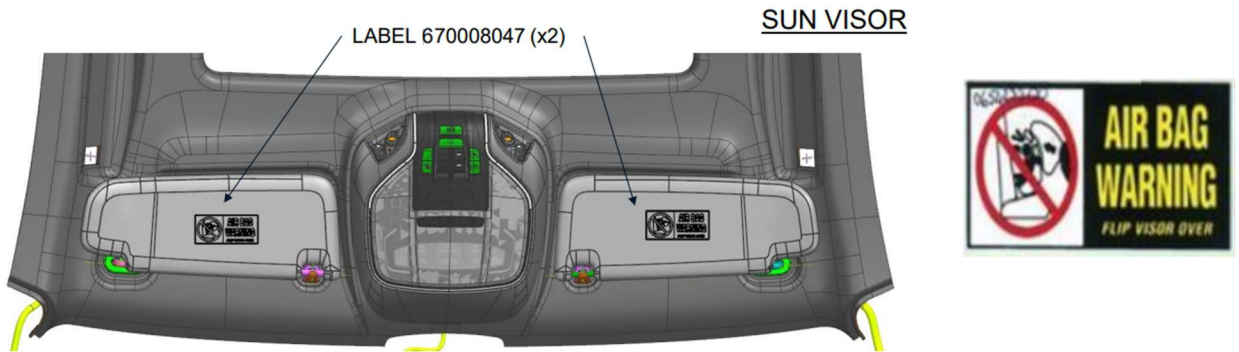


5710.208 (FMVSS 208), S4.5.1 (b) noncompliance that requires a permanently affixed airbag warning label to either side of the sun visor, at the manufacturer's option, at each front outboard seating position that is equipped with an inflatable restraint. For Maserati vehicles, the airbag warning labels are positioned and affixed on the headliner and not the sun visor.

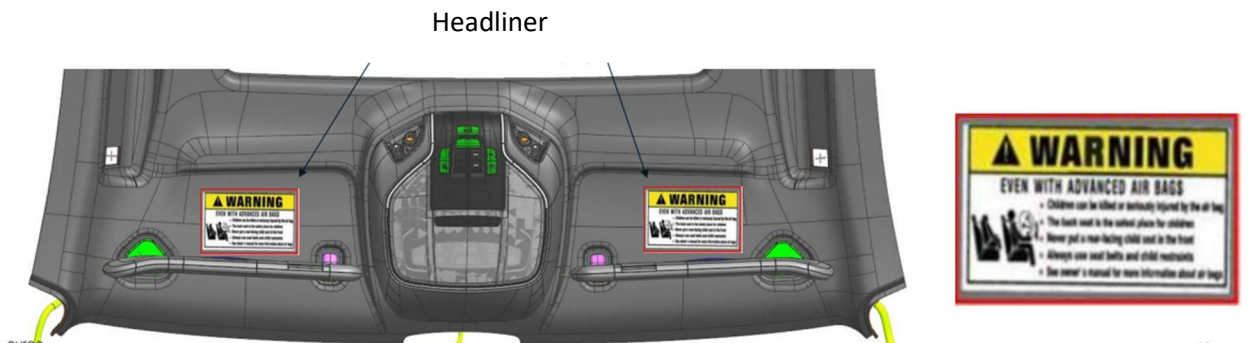
Justification for Petition for a Determination of Inconsequentiality

For the reasons discussed below, MNA submits that this technical noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety:

- An airbag alert label is affixed on the sun visor informing the passenger to flip the sun visor to the down position for the warning label to be visible.



- The airbag warning label is affixed to the headliner where the label is clearly visible on the headliner with the sun visor in the down position.





- A label on the headliner, in combination with the airbag alert label, provides a prominent display of the airbag warnings as intended by FMVSS 208. The NHTSA has recognized the headliner as an effective location for safety warning labels as indicated in its 2016 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“NPRM”) on Vehicle Defect Reporting Requirements (NHTSA-2015-0096). The NHTSA assesses the suitability of the headliner for safety warning labels in Section IV, Alternatives Considered and Proposed for the Label, and finds the headliner to be an effective location for a safety warning label. “The agency also recognizes that the headliner above the sun visor may have similar benefits to the visor without some of the disadvantages of the visor.”[Page 17 of NPRM] In assessing the headliner for the placement of a defect reporting label the NHTSA determined “Like the sun visor, the headliner is a relatively accessible and prominent location, being in front of the vehicle occupants and not far from eye level. A label on either the headliner or the “back” side of the visor would only be visible when the visor was in the “open” (not stowed) position.”[Page 16 of NPRM]
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It is the belief of MNA that the information described above satisfies the intent of 49 CFR Part 556 and operators can safely utilize their vehicles for intended purposes. MNA believes that, pursuant to 49 CFR Part 556, 49 USC 30188(d) and 30120(h), the FMVSS 208 S4.3.1, this airbag warning label noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety and MNA should be exempted from the notification and remedy requirements of 49 USC Chapter 301, “Motor Vehicle Safety” for the reasons supporting exemption cited above.

Sun visor airbag warning labels for vehicles manufactured in the plant are being updated to reflect the correct position of the label on the sun visor.





Sincerely,

John R. McDonald

Enclosures

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Jennifer.kruger@dot.gov
Alex.Ansley@dot.gov

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21V-614

Manufacturer Name : Maserati North America, Inc.**Submission Date :** AUG 05, 2021**NHTSA Recall No. :** 21V-614**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 431**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Maserati North America, Inc.

Address : One Chrysler Drive

Auburn Hills MI 48326

Company phone : 877-969-2737

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 78,588

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2014-2021 MASERATI Ghibli

Vehicle Type :

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : All 2014 MY to 2021 MY Maserati Ghibli vehicles were built with airbag warning labels placed on the headliner rather than the sun visor.

The suspect period was determined, using vehicle production records, to be from the beginning of 2014 MY production through July 13, 2021, when 2021 MY production ended.

Similar vehicles that are not included in the recall were built after the suspect period. The total affected vehicles for this model is 42013.

Production Dates : APR 30, 2013 - JUL 13, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2014-2021 MASERATI Quattroporte

Vehicle Type :

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : All 2014 MY to 2021 MY Maserati Quattroporte vehicles were built with airbag warning labels placed on the headliner rather than the sun visor.

The suspect period was determined, using vehicle production records, to be from the beginning of 2014 MY production through July 13, 2021, when 2021 MY production ended.

Similar vehicles that are not included in the recall were built after the suspect period. The total affected vehicles for this model is 14060

Production Dates : APR 30, 2021 - JUL 13, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2017-2021 MASERATI Levante

Vehicle Type :

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : All 2017 MY to 2021 MY Maserati Levante vehicles were built with airbag warning labels placed on the headliner rather than the sun visor.

The suspect period was determined, using vehicle production records, to be from the beginning of 2017 MY production through July 13, 2021, when 2021 MY production ended.

Similar vehicles that are not included in the recall were built after the suspect period.

The total affected vehicles for this model is 22515.

Production Dates : MAY 30, 2016 - JUL 13, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard ("FMVSS") 49 CFR 571.208 requires manufacturers to provide a sun visor airbag warning label permanently affixed to either side of the sun visor, at each front outboard seating position that is equipped with an inflatable restraint. For Maserati vehicles, the warning air bag labels are positioned and affixed on the headliner and not the sun visor.

FMVSS 1 : 208 - Occupant crash protection

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Maserati North America believes that the noncompliance with FMVSS 49 CFR 571.208, in this instance, is inconsequential as it relates to motor vehicle safety and intends to petition the NHTSA, pursuant to CFR part 556, for exemption from the notification and remedy requirements.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Labels

Component Description : Air bag Labels

Component Part Number : 670008047 - 670008052

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR
Address : NR
NR
Country : NR

Chronology :

On July 29, 2021, Maserati SpA determined, through the Vehicle Regulations Committee, to conduct a voluntary safety recall of the affected vehicles for the noncompliance of FMVSS 208.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Maserati North America intends to timely petition the NHTSA, pursuant to 49 CFR 556, for exemption from the notification and remedy requirements due to the inconsequentiality of the noncompliance as it relates to motor vehicle safety.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : New design part and new part number

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Maserati North America, Inc., plans to submit a petition for inconsequentiality on or before August 30, 2021.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

* NR - Not Reported