

In addition to the more formal National TPM Implementation Review Survey, FHWA will conduct informal voluntary TPM State-of-Practice Questionnaires related to ongoing TPM policy and guidance, technical assistance, and capacity needs. To address concerns expressed by stakeholders regarding the burden of effort and administration of these additional questionnaires, FHWA is proposing to sequence the National TPM Implementation Review Survey and other State-of-the-Practice Questionnaires on a biennial cycle. Under this biennial cycle, the first National TPM Implementation Review Survey would be administered in 2016 and the follow-up in 2020. The smaller, less formal State-of-the-Practice Questionnaires would be administered in 2018 and 2022. The State-of-the-Practice Questionnaires are essential to helping FHWA coordinate with its many stakeholders to reduce duplicative survey efforts as the industry works to implement and understand the TPM practices.

Under this sequencing, the National TPM Implementation Review Survey will continue to serve the original purpose of allowing FHWA to evaluate the effectiveness of efforts to implement TPM and PBPP. The State-of-the-Practice Questionnaires will enable FHWA and its stakeholders to coordinate the collection of information necessary to advance the state-of-the-practice and further TPM capacity building efforts. This approach limits the number of TPM related surveys to 4 over a number of years:

- National TPM Implementation Review Survey (*Baseline*): 2016.
- State-of-the-Practice Questionnaires: 2018.
- National TPM Implementation Review Survey (*Follow-up*): 2020.
- State-of-the-Practice Questionnaires: 2022.

After each survey or questionnaire, FHWA and its stakeholders will explore how to better align the information collection requests with yet-to-be determined performance management reporting processes. The information will be collected from State, metropolitan, regional, local, and/or tribal transportation agencies via internet-based questionnaires or web applications and will be used to help FHWA and its partner organizations do the following:

- Strategically plan to meet ever growing demand for TPM technical assistance needs;
- Develop and refine TPM policy and guidance based on stakeholder feedback;

- Channel resources to meet capacity development and training needs; and
- Identify and prioritize TPM research needs.

Lastly, as part of FHWA's ongoing technical assistance efforts, a TPM Toolbox is being created to help FHWA's partners self-assess and benchmark their TPM implementation progress, capabilities, and gaps. The TPM Toolbox will also help FHWA streamline the integration and administration of all the efforts described above. To maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of the TPM Toolbox, FHWA will collect business contact and organizational demographic (size of organization, location, etc.) information along with the responses submitted as part of the TPM Toolbox's self-assessment applications.

**Respondents:** The 975 respondents estimate is based on soliciting input from 52 STA, 409 MPOS, and a sampling of other State and local transportation entities. In most cases, only STAs and MPOs will be surveyed.

**Frequency:** Agencies will be solicited to provide information via a survey 1 time every two years. Additionally, transportation agencies may submit information more frequently by using the TPM Toolbox's self-assessment tool.

**Estimated Average Burden per Response:** The estimated average annual burden hours is up to 20 hours per response during a year with a survey/questionnaire request.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:** The estimated total annual burden hours for all respondents is estimated to be 19,500 burden hours (975 respondents  $\times$  20 burden hours) per year with survey/questionnaire requests.

**Professional Staff Time During a Survey Year**

- 20 hours/respondent  $\times$  975 respondents  $\times$  1 questionnaire during a survey year = 19,500 hours

**Clerical Staff Time During a Survey Year**

- 2 hours/respondent  $\times$  975 respondents  $\times$  1 questionnaire during a survey year = 1,950 hours

The aggregated associated salary cost to all respondents (975) during a survey year is estimated to be \$1,032,213 based on an average salary of \$38 per hour (approximately \$79,000 per year) for professional staff and \$18 per hour (approximately \$37,000 per year) for clerical staff. Disaggregated, the total average annual cost per respondent during a survey year is estimated to be \$1,058.68. The burden hours and costs are illustrated below.

**Professional Staff Cost During a Survey Year**

- All respondents: 19,500 hours  $\times$  \$38 per hour = \$741,000
  - Per respondent: (20  $\times$  \$38 = \$760)

**Clerical Staff Cost During a Survey Year**

- All respondents: 1,950 hours  $\times$  \$18 per hour = \$35,100
  - Per respondent (2 hours  $\times$  \$18 per hour = \$36)

**Total Annual Cost During a Survey Year**

- Subtotal Direct Salaries (Professional + Clerical) \$776,100
- Overhead/fringe benefits at 33%: \$256,113
- Total annual respondents cost during survey year: \$1,032,213
  - Total average annual cost per respondent during survey year: \$1,058.68

**Public Comments Invited:** You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the U.S. DOT's performance, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the U.S. DOT's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (3) ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized, including the use of electronic technology, without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

**Authority:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued On: March 25, 2016.

**Michael Howell,**

*Information Collection Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2015-0083, Notice 2]

#### Decision That Nonconforming Model Year 2014 Mercedes-Benz SLK Class Passenger Cars Are Eligible for Importation

**AGENCY:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Grant of petition.

**SUMMARY:** This document announces a decision by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that certain model year (MY) 2014 Mercedes-Benz SLK Class passenger cars (PCs) that were not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) are eligible for importation into the United States because they are substantially similar to vehicles originally manufactured for sale in the United States and certified by their manufacturer as complying with the safety standards (the U.S. certified version of the MY 2014 Mercedes-Benz SLK Class PC), and they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

**DATES:** This decision became effective on March 25, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** For further information contact George Stevens, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-5308).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable FMVSS shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States, certified as required under 49 U.S.C. 30115, and of the same model year as the model of the motor vehicle to be compared, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable FMVSS.

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the **Federal Register** of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition. At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the **Federal Register**.

J.K. Technologies, LLC, of Baltimore, Maryland (JK) (Registered Importer# RI-90-006), petitioned NHTSA to decide whether MY 2014 Mercedes-Benz SLK Class PCs are eligible for importation into the United States. NHTSA published a notice of the petition on February 16, 2016 (81 FR 7889) to afford an opportunity for public comment. No

comments were received in response to this petition. The reader is referred to the receipt notice for a thorough description of the petition.

*NHTSA'S Conclusions*

NHTSA has reviewed the petition and has concluded that the vehicles covered by the petition are substantially similar to MY 2014 Mercedes-Benz SLK Class PC's and are capable of being readily altered to comply with all applicable FMVSS.

NHTSA has also determined that any RI who imports or modifies one of these vehicles must include in the statement of conformity and associated documents (referred to as a "conformity package") it submits to NHTSA under 49 CFR 592.6(d) additional specific proof to confirm that the vehicle was manufactured to conform to, or was successfully altered to conform to, FMVSS No. 101, *Controls and Displays*, FMVSS No. 138, *Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems*, FMVSS No. 208 *Occupant Crash Protection* and FMVSS No. 301 *Fuel System Integrity*. This proof must include detailed descriptions of all modifications made to achieve conformity with those standards, including a detailed description of systems in place (if any) on the vehicle at the time it was delivered to the RI and a similarly detailed description of the systems in place after the vehicle is altered, including photographs of all required labeling. The description must also include parts assembly diagrams and associated part numbers for all components that were removed from or installed on the vehicle, a description of how any computer programming changes were completed, and a description of how compliance was verified after alterations were completed. Photographs (e.g., monitor print screen captures) or report printouts, as practicable, must be submitted as proof that any computer reprogramming was carried out successfully.

In addition to the information specified above, each conformity package must also include evidence showing how the RI verified that the changes it made in loading or reprogramming vehicle software to achieve conformity with each separate FMVSS, did not also cause the vehicle to fall out of compliance with any other applicable FMVSS.

*Decision*

Accordingly, on the basis of the foregoing, NHTSA hereby decides that MY 2014 Mercedes-Benz SLK Class passenger cars that were not originally

manufactured to comply with all applicable FMVSS, are substantially similar to MY 2014 Mercedes-Benz SLK Class passenger cars manufactured for importation into and/or sale in the United States, and certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115, and are capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.

*Vehicle Eligibility Number for Subject Vehicles*

The importer of a vehicle admissible under any final decision must indicate on the form HS-7 accompanying entry the appropriate vehicle eligibility number indicating that the vehicle is eligible for entry. VSP-581 is the vehicle eligibility number assigned to vehicles admissible under this notice of final decision.

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 30118, 30120; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.95 and 501.8.

**Jeffrey M. Giuseppe,**  
Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.  
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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

[Docket No. NHTSA-2014-0045; Notice 2]

**General Motors, LLC, Grant of Petition for Decision of Inconsequential Noncompliance**

**AGENCY:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Grant of petition.

**SUMMARY:** General Motors, LLC, (GM) has determined that certain model year (MY) 2014 GMC Sierra Denali vehicles do not fully comply with paragraph S3.1.4 of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 102, *Transmission shift position sequence, starter interlock, and transmission braking effect*. GM filed a report dated January 31, 2014 pursuant to 49 CFR part 573, *Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports*. GM then petitioned NHTSA under 49 CFR part 556 requesting a decision that the subject noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety.

**ADDRESSES:** For further information on this decision contact John Finneran, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), telephone