

On April 24, 2020, NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) opened Defect Petition DP20-004 to evaluate the petitioner's request. ODI conducted a search for all consumer complaints and Early Warning Reporting (EWR) data related to allegations of brake line corrosion or leakage in 2013 Mercedes-Benz E350 sedans and similarly equipped vehicles. The 2013 E350 is a fourth-generation Mercedes-Benz E-Class vehicle (W212 platform), which was first sold in the United States in 2009 as a 2010 model. Mercedes-Benz has sold approximately 245,000 model year 2010 through 2015 E-Class sedan and wagon vehicles in the United States with the same brake line design as the petitioner's vehicle.

The subject brake lines are routed along the left undercarriage and have a corrosion protection coating system consisting of a base layer of zinc and an outer coating of polyvinyl fluoride. The Mercedes-Benz maintenance plan for the subject vehicles recommends brake line inspection every 12 months or 10,000 miles to detect and repair corrosion damage before it compromises brake circuit integrity. While there is potential for brake line corrosion and leakage in older vehicles operated in States with high road salt use in winter months, the low complaint counts do not provide evidence that such failures are occurring prematurely in the subject platform or that the failures are having an impact on brake system performance.

Specifically, ODI's search for complaints and EWR data in 2013 Mercedes-Benz E350 vehicles found no additional records related to the alleged defect. Expanding the search to all W212 platform vehicles identified just one incident, a complaint alleging unspecified brake line corrosion and leakage in a 2011 Mercedes-Benz E550 (NHTSA ID 10902081). The complaint did not allege that the brake line leakage resulted in reduced brake performance, crash, or injury. The resulting failure rate of 0.4 failures per hundred thousand vehicles is extremely low for a population that includes vehicles that have been in service for over ten years and does not include any allegations of reduced brake performance, crash, or injury. After reviewing the available data and evaluating the safety risk posed by the condition specified in the petition, ODI has not identified evidence of a defect trend in the subject E-Class vehicles that would support opening a defect investigation into premature brake line corrosion failure.

Additionally, the brake system of the subject vehicles is a dual-circuit hydraulic system split front-to-rear. Brake line leakage resulting from

undetected/unrepaired corrosion damage is not expected to result in diminished brake performance at the onset of a slow leak condition. Undetected brake fluid loss would first lead to brake warning lamp illumination from low brake fluid reservoir level. Continued operation with brake warning lamp illuminated could result in loss of rear brake function should the fluid loss continue until the rear circuit reservoir is empty.¹ The subject vehicles would retain most of their braking capacity even after loss of the rear circuit, as the front circuit provides approximately 70 percent of the stopping force in the split front-to-rear design.

After reviewing the available data and evaluating the safety risk posed by the condition cited in the petition, ODI has not identified evidence of a defect trend in the subject E-Class vehicles that would support opening a defect investigation into premature brake line corrosion failure. NHTSA is authorized to issue an order requiring notification and remedy of a defect if the Agency's investigation shows a defect in design, construction, or performance of a motor vehicle that presents an unreasonable risk to safety. 49 U.S.C. 30102(a)(9), 30118. Since the information currently before the Agency is not indicative of a defect trend, it is unlikely that any investigation opened after granting this petition would result in an order concerning the notification and remedy of a safety-related defect. Therefore, upon full consideration of the information presented in the petition and the potential risks to safety, the petition is denied. The denial of this petition does not foreclose the Agency from taking further action if warranted, or lessen the potential for a future finding that a safety-related defect exists based upon additional information the Agency may receive.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30162(d); delegations of authority at CFR 1.95 and 501.8.

Jeffrey Mark Giuseppe,

Associate Administrator for Enforcement.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Foreign Assets Control

Notice of OFAC Sanctions Actions

AGENCY: Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

¹ Rear circuit loss may occur more rapidly if corrosion damage results in a more significant brake line rupture.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is publishing the names of one or more persons that have been placed on OFAC's Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List based on OFAC's determination that one or more applicable legal criteria were satisfied. All property and interests in property subject to U.S. jurisdiction of these persons are blocked, and U.S. persons are generally prohibited from engaging in transactions with them.

DATES: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for applicable date(s).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: OFAC: Associate Director for Global Targeting, tel.: 202-622-2420; Assistant Director for Sanctions Compliance & Evaluation, tel.: 202-622-2490, or; Assistant Director for Licensing, tel.: 202-622-2480.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Availability

The Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List and additional information concerning OFAC sanctions programs are available on OFAC's website (www.treas.gov/ofac).

Notice of OFAC Actions

The Secretary of State has identified the following persons in a list submitted to the appropriate congressional committees pursuant to Executive Order "Blocking Property of Certain Persons with Respect to the Conventional Arms Activities of Iran." Accordingly, on September 21, 2020, the Director of OFAC, acting pursuant to delegated authority, has taken the actions described below to impose the sanctions set forth in Section 2 of this Executive Order with respect to the persons listed below.

Individuals

1. MADURO MOROS, Nicolas (Latin: MADURO MOROS, Nicolás), Caracas, Capital District, Venezuela; DOB 23 Nov 1962; POB Caracas, Venezuela; citizen Venezuela; Gender Male; Cedula No. 5892464 (Venezuela); President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (individual) [VENEZUELA] [IRAN-CON-ARMS-E.O.].

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of Executive Order 13949 of September 21, 2020, 85 FR 60043 (E.O. 13949) for having engaged, or attempted to engage, in activities or transactions that have materially contributed to the supply, sale, or transfer to or from Iran directly or indirectly, or for the use in or benefit of Iran, of arms or related materiel, including spare parts.

2. KETABACHI, Mehrdada Akhlaghi (a.k.a. KETABCHI, Merhdada Akhlaghi), c/o AIO, Langare Street, Nobonyad Square, Tehran, Iran; c/o SBIG, Tehran, Iran; DOB 10 Sep

1958; nationality Iran; Additional Sanctions Information—Subject to Secondary Sanctions; Passport A0030940 (Iran) (individual) [NPWMD] [IFSR] [IRAN-CON-ARMS-E.O.].

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of E.O. 13949 for having engaged, or attempted to engage, in activities or transactions that have materially contributed to the supply, sale, or transfer to or from Iran directly or indirectly, or for the use in or benefit of Iran, of arms or related materiel, including spare parts.

Entities

1. DEFENSE INDUSTRIES ORGANIZATION (a.k.a. DEFENCE INDUSTRIES ORGANISATION; a.k.a. DIO; a.k.a. SASEMAN SANAJE DEFA; a.k.a. SAZEMANE SANAYE DEFA; a.k.a. “SASADJA”), P.O. Box 19585-777, Pasdaran Street, Entrance of Babaie Highway, Permanent Expo of Defence Industries Organization, Tehran, Iran; Additional Sanctions Information—Subject to Secondary Sanctions [NPWMD] [IFSR] [IRAN-CON-ARMS-E.O.].

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of E.O. 13949 for having engaged, or attempted to engage, in activities or transactions that have materially contributed to the supply, sale, or transfer to or from Iran directly or indirectly, or for the use in or benefit of Iran, of arms or related materiel, including spare parts.

2. MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND ARMED FORCES LOGISTICS (a.k.a. GOVERNMENT OF IRAN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE; a.k.a. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE & ARMED FORCES LOGISTICS; a.k.a. MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND SUPPORT FOR ARMED FORCES LOGISTICS; a.k.a. MINISTRY OF DEFENSE ARMED FORCES LOGISTICS; a.k.a. MINISTRY OF DEFENSE FOR ARMED FORCES LOGISTICS; a.k.a. MODAFL; a.k.a. MODSAF; a.k.a. VEZARATE DEFA; a.k.a. VEZARAT-E DEFA VA POSHTYBANI-NIRU-HAYE MOSALLAH), Ferdowsi Avenue, Sarhang Sakhaei Street, Tehran, Iran; PO Box 11365-8439, Pasdaran Ave., Tehran, Iran; West side of Dabestan Street, Abbas Abad District, Tehran, Iran; Additional Sanctions Information—Subject to Secondary Sanctions [SDGT] [NPWMD] [IFSR] [IRAN-CON-ARMS-E.O.] (Linked To: ISLAMIC REVOLUTIONARY GUARD CORPS (IRGC)-QODS FORCE).

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of E.O. 13949 for having engaged, or attempted to engage, in activities or transactions that have materially contributed to the supply, sale, or transfer to or from Iran directly or indirectly, or for the use in or benefit of Iran, of arms or related materiel, including spare parts.

Dated: September 24, 2020.

Andrea M. Gacki,

Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Foreign Assets Control

Notice of OFAC Sanctions Actions

AGENCY: Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is publishing the names of one or more persons that have been placed on OFAC’s list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons (SDN List) based on OFAC’s determination that one or more applicable legal criteria were satisfied. All property and interests in property subject to U.S. jurisdiction of these persons are blocked, and U.S. persons are generally prohibited from engaging in transactions with them.

DATES: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SECTION FOR APPLICABLE DATE(s)**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: *OFAC:* Associate Director for Global Targeting, tel.: 202-622-2420; Assistant Director for Sanctions Compliance & Evaluation, tel.: 202-622-2490; or Assistant Director for Licensing, tel.: 202-622-2480.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Availability

The SDN List and additional information concerning OFAC sanctions programs are available on OFAC’s website (www.treas.gov/ofac).

Notice of OFAC Actions

On October 8, 2020, OFAC determined that the property and interests in property subject to U.S. jurisdiction of the following persons are blocked under the relevant sanctions authorities listed below.

Entities

1. AMIN INVESTMENT BANK (a.k.a. AMINIB; a.k.a. “AMIN IB”), No. 51 Ghobadiyan Street, Valiasr Street, Tehran 1968917173, Iran; website <http://www.aminib.com>; Additional Sanctions Information—Subject to Secondary Sanctions [IRAN] [IRAN-EO13902].

Sanctioned pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of Executive Order 13902 of January 10, 2020, 85 FR 2003 (E.O. 13902) for operating in the financial sector of the Iranian economy.

2. BANK KESHAVARZI IRAN (a.k.a. AGRICULTURAL BANK OF IRAN; a.k.a. BANK KESHAVARZI), P.O. Box 14155-6395, 129 Patrice Lumumba St, Jalal-al-Ahmad Expressway, Tehran 14454, Iran; website www.agri-bank.com; alt. website www.bki.ir; Additional Sanctions Information—Subject to Secondary Sanctions; all offices worldwide [IRAN] [IRAN-EO13902].

Sanctioned pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of E.O. 13902 for operating in the financial sector of the Iranian economy.

3. BANK MASKAN (a.k.a. HOUSING BANK—OF IRAN), P.O. Box 11365/5699, No. 247 3rd Floor Fedowsi Ave., Cross Sarhang Sakhaei St, Tehran, Iran; P.O. Box 11365-3499, Ferdowsi Ave., Cross Sarhang Sakhaie St, Tehran, Iran; website www.bank-maskan.ir; Additional Sanctions Information—Subject to Secondary Sanctions; all offices worldwide [IRAN] [IRAN-EO13902].

Sanctioned pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of E.O. 13902 for operating in the financial sector of the Iranian economy.

4. BANK REFAH KARGARAN (a.k.a. BANK REFAH; a.k.a. WORKERS’ WELFARE BANK—OF IRAN), No. 40 North Shiraz Street, Mollasadra Ave., Vanak Sq., Tehran 19917, Iran; No. 40, North Shiraz St., Mollasadra Ave., Tehran, Iran; 40, Northern Shirazi St., Molla Sadra Ave., Tehran 19917, Iran; website www.bankrefah.ir; alt. website www.refah-bank.ir; Additional Sanctions Information—Subject to Secondary Sanctions; all offices worldwide [IRAN] [IRAN-EO13902].

Sanctioned pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of E.O. 13902 for operating in the financial sector of the Iranian economy.

5. BANK-E SHAHR, Sepahod Gharani, Corner of Khosro St., No. 147, Tehran, Iran; website shahr-bank.ir; Additional Sanctions Information—Subject to Secondary Sanctions [IRAN] [IRAN-EO13902].

Sanctioned pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of E.O. 13902 for operating in the financial sector of the Iranian economy.

6. EGHTEHAD NOVIN BANK (a.k.a. BANK EGHTEHAD NOVIN; a.k.a. BANK-E EGHTEHAD NOVIN; a.k.a. EN BANK PJSC), Vali Asr Street, Above Vanak Circle, across Niayesh, Esfandiari Blvd., No. 24, Tehran, Iran; SWIFT/BIC BEGNIRTH; website www.enbank.ir; Additional Sanctions Information—Subject to Secondary Sanctions [IRAN] [IRAN-EO13902].

Sanctioned pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of E.O. 13902 for operating in the financial sector of the Iranian economy.

7. GHARZOLHASANEH RESALAT BANK (a.k.a. BANK-E GHARZOLHASANEH RESALAT), Beside the No. 1 Baghestan Alley, Saadat Abad Ave., Kaj Sq., Tehran, Iran; Additional Sanctions Information—Subject to Secondary Sanctions; All offices worldwide [IRAN] [IRAN-EO13902].

Sanctioned pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of E.O. 13902 for operating in the financial sector of the Iranian economy.

8. HEKMAT IRANIAN BANK (a.k.a. BANK HEKMAT IRANIAN; a.k.a. BANK-E HEKMAT IRANIAN), Argentine Circle, beginning of Africa St., Corner of 37th St., (Dara Cul-de-sac), No.26, Tehran, Iran; No. 26, Afrigha Ave., Argentina Sq., Tehran, Iran; website www.hibank24.ir; Additional Sanctions Information—Subject to Secondary Sanctions [IRAN] [NPWMD] [IFSR] (Linked To: BANK SEPAH).

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iv) of Executive Order 13382 of June 28, 2005, 70 FR 38567, 3 CFR, 2006 Comp., p. 170 (E.O. 13382) for being owned or controlled by