



U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

NHTSA Auto Safety Hotline

Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire
To Report Vehicle Safety Defects
1-888-DASH-2-DOT
(1-888-327-4236)
INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 1374

Date Received: 2003 MAR 17 AM 9:32
Repository:
Reference No.: 10009161

Daytime Telephone Number: [REDACTED]
Evening Telephone Number: 588

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle?
In the absence of an signature of owner, your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.
 YES NO
Date: 3/6/03

VEHICLE INFORMATION
VIN: WDBCB35DXMA596852
Make: MERCEDES BENZ
Model: 350 SD L
Model Year: 1991
Date Purchased: 10-18-02
Dealer's Name and Telephone Number: Columbus Motor Co. (706) 327-3636
Original Owner:
Dealer's City: Columbus, Ga. State: Ga. Zip Code: 31901
Engine: No. Cylinders: 6
Fuel Type: Diesel
Transmission Type: Auto.
 Antilock Brakes
 Cruise Control
Powertrain: Rear Wheel Drive
Vehicle Component Code: M73000 FUEL SYSTEM, GASOLINE:FUEL INJECTION SYSTEM
Multiple Failure: 1 - Fuel leaks all 6 cyl.

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION
Incident Date(s): 10-18-02
Failure Mileage: 110816
Failure Speed: All
Around injectors, and injectors all head

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE
Tire Make: [REDACTED] Tire Model (Name or Number): [REDACTED] Tire Size (Example P215/65R15): [REDACTED]
DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036): [REDACTED] Original Equipment Prior Repair
Failure Location: [REDACTED]
Tire Component Code: [REDACTED] Tire Failure Type: [REDACTED]

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE
Make: [REDACTED] Date Manufactured: [REDACTED] Model No./Name: [REDACTED]
Seat Type: [REDACTED] Installation System: [REDACTED]
Child Seat Component Code: [REDACTED] Failed Part: [REDACTED]

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION
(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(ies).)
Crash: Yes No
Fire: Yes No
Number of Persons Injured: [REDACTED] Number of Deaths: [REDACTED] Reported to Police: N

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).
Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e., parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

FUEL LEAKED FROM THE FUEL INJECTION AND GOT INTO THE HEAD GASKET. *JB

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice. ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY.
The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579) This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies)

In first week, we noticed strong Diesel fuel smell. Open the hood to check, and I saw Diesel fuel and oil around the top of engine. Had to go to clean engine.

Had the engine running and noticed water bubbling where injectors screwed into head. Ran engine until it was done. Started engine again and held a piece of paper next to each injector, it got wet with Diesel fuel, leaking around all six. Small is on head, cause to ride with windows down because of smell. Dad under hood saturated with Diesel fuel. Afraid it is going to catch fire.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

400 Seventh St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20590

Official Business Penalty for Private Use \$300

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO 73173 WASHINGTON, D.C.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY NHTL HWY. TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN.

U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation, NVS-216
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590



NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES



VEHICLE OWNER'S QUESTIONNAIRE

DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE

TO REPORT VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECTS
COMPLETE THIS FORM
OR

DASH2DOT

and dial toll free at

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1-888-327-4236

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
(DASH) & DOT



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