



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway

Traffic Safety
Administration

DOT 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 100148

Date Received

Repository ☐

19-SEP-2006 7:41

Reference No.

10168658

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name

Address

City

SANTA CLARITA

State

CA

Zip Code

Daytime Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Evening Telephone Number

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle?
In the absence of an authorized address to the vehicle manufacturer.

☒ YES

☒ NO

Signature of Owner

Date 9/25/06

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side

WDBCA39D73A

Make

MERCEDES BENZ

Model

S CLASS

560 SEL

Model Year

1998

Date Purchased

Dealer's Name and Telephone Number

Engine:

No: Cylinders 8

Fuel Type:

Gas

Original Owner

☐

Dealer's City

State

Zip Code

Transmission Type

☒

Antilock Brakes

Powertrain

REAR WHEEL DRIVE

AUTOMATIC

☒

Cruise Control

Vehicle Component Code

180000 VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL

Multiple Failure: 1

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s)

22-MAR-2006

Failure Mileage

170000

Failure Speed

25

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make

Tire Model (Name or Number)

Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)

DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036)

☐ Original Equipment

☐ Prior Repair

Failure Location:

Tire Component Code

Tire Failure Type

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make:

Date Manufactured:

Model No./Name:

Seat Type:

Installation System:

Child Seat Component Code:

Failed Part:

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

1

Number of Deaths

0

Reported to Police

Y

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).

DT*: THE CONTACT STATED WHEN SHIFTED INTO DRIVE, THE VEHICLE ACCELERATED UNCONTROLLABLY INTO THE STREET WHERE IT COLLIDED WITH A HOUSE ON THE OTHER SIDE AT 25 MPH. THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL TEAM RESPONDED. A POLICE REPORT AND PHOTOS WERE TAKEN. THE CONTACT AVOIDED SERIOUS INJURY DUE TO THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE FRONTAL AIR BAG, ALTHOUGH TREATMENT WAS RECEIVED FOR MINOR ABRASIONS AND BRUISING. THE VEHICLE WAS TOWED TO THE SERVICE DEALER WHO DETERMINED THE FAILURE WAS DUE TO RUST AND POOR MAINTENANCE, ALTHOUGH THE CONTACT CLAIMED THE VEHICLE WAS MAINTAINED IN SHOW ROOM CONDITION. THE MODEL WAS 560 SEL. 1988

EIGHT PREVIOUS CRASHES OCCURED TO THIS MODEL AND NO OTHER MODELS, YET THIS CAR WAS NEVER RECALLED AND FIXED. WHY?

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.

**Automobile Club of Southern California**

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NHTSA Safety Problems and Issues**Consumer Complaints****1988 MERCEDES BENZ 560**

Make : MERCEDES BENZ
Model : 560
Year : 1988
Manufacturer : MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC.
Crash : Yes
Fire : No
Number of Injuries: 1
ODI ID Number : 533528
Number of Deaths: 0
Date of Failure:
Component: VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL
Summary: VEHICLE EXPERIENCED SUDDEN ACCELERATION WHICH RESULTED IN A FRONT END COLLISION, THERE WAS NO DEPLOYMENT OF AIR BAG.

Make : MERCEDES BENZ
Model : 560
Year : 1988
Manufacturer : MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC.
Crash : No
Fire : No
Number of Injuries: 1
ODI ID Number : 552529
Number of Deaths: 0
Date of Failure: October 5, 1999
Component: VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL
Summary: VEHICLE EXPERIENCED SUDDEN ACCELERATION WHILE IN REVERSE GEAR RESULTING IN COLLISION WITH STORE AND INJURY TO CONSUMER. *MJS

Make : MERCEDES BENZ

Model : 560
Year : 1988
Manufacturer : MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC.
Crash : No
Fire : No
Number of Injuries: 1
ODI ID Number : 552529
Number of Deaths: 0
Date of Failure: October 5, 1999
Component: VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL
Summary: VEHICLE EXPERIENCED SUDDEN ACCELERATION WHILE IN REVERSE GEAR RESULTING IN COLLISION WITH STORE AND INJURY TO CONSUMER. *MJS

Make : MERCEDES BENZ
Model : 560
Year : 1988
Manufacturer : MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC.
Crash : Yes
Fire : No
Number of Injuries: 0
ODI ID Number : 807718
Number of Deaths: 0
Date of Failure:
Component: VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL
Summary: UPON SHIFTING FROM PARK TO DRIVE, FOOT APPLIED TO BRAKE PEDAL, ENGINE ROARED, THEN LURCHED FORWARD, OVERPOWERING BRAKES, HIT ROCK WALL, THEN ROLLED OVER, VEHICLE WAS TOTALLED. *AK

Make : MERCEDES BENZ
Model : 560
Year : 1988
Manufacturer : MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC.
Crash : Yes
Fire : No
Number of Injuries: 0

ODI ID Number : 841128

Number of Deaths: 0

Date of Failure:

Component: VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL

Summary: THROTTLE GOT STUCK, CAUSING THE VEHICLE TO SUDDENLY ACCELERATE, RESULTING IN A CRASH. PLEASE PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION AND VIN#. *AK

Make : MERCEDES BENZ

Model : 560

Year : 1988

Manufacturer : MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC.

Crash : Yes

Fire : No

Number of Injuries: 1

ODI ID Number : 852403

Number of Deaths: 0

Date of Failure: October 5, 1999

Component: VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL

Summary: VEHICLE EXPERIENCED SUDDEN ACCELERATION WHEN PUT IN REVERSE, RESULTING IN VEHICLE HITTING A CURB, GOING AIRBORNE INTO A STORE WINDOW. DRIVER APPLIED BRAKES, BUT BRAKES FAILED TO STOP VEHICLE. DRIVER SUSTAINED INJURIES. VEHICLE WAS SEVERELY DAMAGED. *AK

Make : MERCEDES BENZ

Model : 560

Year : 1988

Manufacturer : MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC.

Crash : Yes

Fire : No

Number of Injuries: 0

ODI ID Number : 984650

Number of Deaths: 0

Date of Failure: May 9, 1996

Component: VEHICLE SPEED CONTROL

Summary: TURNED ON IGNITION, SHIFTED FROM PARK TO REVERSE, ENGINE

ACCELERATED, VEHICLE WENT BACKWARDS AT HIGH SPEED;
BROADSIDED PARKED VEHICLE. *AK

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MAY 9, 07

DEAR SIRs,

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU INVESTIGATED
THESE REPORTS OF ENGINE SPEED
CONTROL MULTIFUNCTIONS AND
CAME TO SOME CONCLUSION.
WHAT WAS THAT CONCLUSION?
CAN YOU PLEASE MAIL ME A
COPY OF IT.

THANKING YOU

YOURS TRULY,

