



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

Auto Safety Hotline

Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire

NATIONWIDE 1-800-424-9393
DC METRO AREA (202) 366-0123
INTERNET: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 258

Date Received

17-OCT-2001

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Reference No.

753343

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? ☐ YES ☐ NO
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name and address to the vehicle manufacturer.

Signature of Owner _____ Date ____/____/____

VEHICLE INFORMATION

Vehicle Ident. No. (VIN) (Locate at bottom of windshield or driver's side door)	Vehicle Make	Vehicle Model	Vehicle Year	Current Odometer Reading
4JGAB54E2YA154311	MERCEDES BENZ	ML320	2000	
Purchase Date 01-DEC-2000	Dealer's Name _____		Engine Size (CID/CC/L) _____	☐ Turbo ☐ Diesel ☐ Gas ☐ Fuel Injectio
☐ New ☒ Used	City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____		No Cylinders _____	
Transmission Type ☐ Manual ☐ Automatic	Antilock Brakes ☒ Yes ☐ No	Restraint System ☐ 3-Point Belt ☐ Motorbelt ☐ Driverside Airbag ☐ 2-Point Bel ☐ Passengerside Airbag	Cruise Control ☒ Yes ☐ No	Drive Train ☒ Front ☐ Rear ☐ 4-Wheel
Vehicle Type ☐ Car ☐ Sport Util ☐ Van ☐ Truck ☐ Minivan ☐ Motorcycle ☐ Other _____		Body Style ☐ 2-Door ☐ 4-Door ☐ Stationwagon ☐ Pick Up Truck ☒ Other _____		

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Component 08510000	Part Name(s) ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:IGNITION:SWITCH	Location ☐ Left ☐ Right ☐ Front ☐ Rear	Failed Part(s) ☐ Original ☐ Replacement
No of Failure 2	Date(s) of Failure(s) 19-JUN-2001 323'3 Mileage at Failure(s) 45	Failed Part(s) ☐ Yes ☐ No	NHTSA Previously ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPLICATION INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and injury(ies) on the back of this form)

Crash ☐ Yes ☐ No	Fire ☐ Yes ☒ No	Number of Persons Injured	Number of Fatalities	Estimated Property Damag	Reported to Police ☐ Yes ☒ No
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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF FAILURE(S), INCIDENT(S), INJURY(IES)

SUBMITTED BY COUNSEL: STEVEN D. BARNHART, FORD & BARNHART, LLP; 6111 PEACHTREE DUNWOODY RD., BLDG. G, SUITE 100, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, 30328; 404-237-2155, 404-352-0118. THIS PROBLEM IS REPORTEDLY WIDESPREAD AMONG THE M-CLASS PRODUCT LINES. SPECIFICALLY, THE IGNITION/KEY CONTACT DESIGN IS SUCH THAT THE VEHICLE WILL TURN ITSELF OFF IF THE CAR HITS A BUMP IN THE ROAD. ACCORDING TO THE DEALER, THIS IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO ADDITIONAL WEIGHT CREATED BY THE PRESENCE OF OTHER KEYS ON THE KEY CHAIN. ADDITIONALLY, IF THE KEY IS MERELY TAPPED DURING OPERATION OF THE VEHICLE, THE VEHICLE WILL TURN ITSELF OFF, EVEN WITH NO OTHER KEYS ON THE KEYCHAIN. SHUTDOWN CAN OCCUR AT ANY SPEED, AND HAS OCCURRED AT NORMAL ROADWAY SPEEDS. *AK

COPIES OF THIS FORM ARE:

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.