



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

11-NOV-2001

Od\_or \_\_\_\_\_  
rt\_dt \_\_\_\_\_  
pd\_rt \_\_\_\_\_  
rp\_lr \_\_\_\_\_

Reference No.

754383

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) <small>(Location at bottom of windshield and driver's side)</small>	Vehicle Make	Vehicle Model	Vehicle Year	Current Odometer Reading
WDBGA43GXXA418595	MERCEDES BENZ	420	1999	

Purchase Date 01-JUN-1998	Dealer's Name _____	Engine Size (CID/CC/L) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Turbo <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel <input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel Injectio
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Used	City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____	No Cylinders _____	

Transmission Type <input type="checkbox"/> Manual <input type="checkbox"/> Automatic	Antilock Brakes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Restraint System <input type="checkbox"/> 3-Point Belt <input type="checkbox"/> Motorbelt <input type="checkbox"/> Driverside Airbag <input type="checkbox"/> 2-Point Bel <input type="checkbox"/> Passengerside Airbag	Cruise Control <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Drive Train <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Front <input type="checkbox"/> Rear <input type="checkbox"/> 4-Wheel	Vehicle Type <input type="checkbox"/> Car <input type="checkbox"/> Sport Util <input type="checkbox"/> Van <input type="checkbox"/> Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Minivan <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Body Style <input type="checkbox"/> 2-Door <input type="checkbox"/> 4-Door <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stationwagon <input type="checkbox"/> Pick Up Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
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### FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Component 02815000	Part Name(s) WHEELS:LUGS:NUTS:BOLTS	Location <input type="checkbox"/> Left <input type="checkbox"/> Right <input type="checkbox"/> Front <input type="checkbox"/> Rear	Failed Part's <input type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement
No of Failure 1	Date(s) of Failure(s) 24-OCT-2001	Failed Part(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	NHTSA Previously <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Mileage at Failure(s) 28000		
	Vehicle Speed at Failure(s) 65		

### APPLICATION INCIDENT INFORMATION

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

Crash <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Fire <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Number of Persons Injured	Number of Fatalities	Estimated Property Damag	Reported to Police <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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### NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF FAILURE(S), INCIDENT(S), INJURY(IES)

ON 10/24, 2001, WHILE DRIVING MERCEDES S-420 WITH 65 MILES PER HOUR ON PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE, PASSANGER SIDE WHEEL WITH TIRE AND WHEEL CAP SEPARATED FROM THE CAR AND FLEW OUT TO THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF ONCOMING TURNPIKE. AFTER THE CAR WAS TOWED TO SUN MOTOR CARS, INC. AT 4444 CARLISLE PIKE, CAMP HILL, PA.(717 737-3030) IT WAS FOUND OUT THAT THE 4 BOLTS FIXATING THE WHEEL TO CAR WERE CUT AND SHEARED. AND ONE HOLE WAS RUSTY. THIS MIGHT SUGEST THAT MANUFATURER USED SUBSTANDARD BOLTS WHICH COULD NOT WITHSTAND THE PRESSURE. I HOPE NO OTHER PEOPLE HAD SAME EXPERIENCE LEADING TO THE INJURIES AND DEATH.  
\*AK

CONTINUE ON REVERSE

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.