



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 05-051
Date Opened: 09/22/2005 Date Closed: 12/02/2005
Principal Investigator: Michael Lee
Subject: Brake Lamp Failure

Manufacturer: Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.
Products: 1998-2004 Mercedes Benz SLK
Population: 69,301

Problem Description: The left and/or right brake lamp fails to illuminate.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	20	185	205
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	56,965	56,965

*Description of Other: Warranty claims on brake lamp assemblies.

Action: This Preliminary Evaluation has been closed (Recall No. 05V505).

Engineer: Michael Lee MLL

Date: 12/02/2005

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper

Date: 12/02/2005

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 12/02/2005

Summary: In its letter dated October 28, 2005, Mercedes-Benz USA stated that it would conduct a safety recall to remedy defective brake lamp assemblies in model year 1998 through 2004 Mercedes Benz SLK vehicles. The base of the brake lamp socket can be subject to thermal deformation over time. This deformation can cause movement in the socket-to-bulb connection, which may lead to a loosening of the electrical contacts in the socket, and failure of the bulb to illuminate. All rear lamp modules (which contain brake, turn signal, tail and backup lamps) will be replaced with redesigned rear lamp modules with a more heat resistant material and enhanced socket holder design to withstand the heat inside the rear lamp module. See NHTSA Recall No. 05V505 for more information.

MLL
12/2/05

MODE - MEMORY TRANSMISSION

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END=DEC-02 14154

FILE NO. -992

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-NHTSA CD1

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282 366 1767- *****



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



Office of Defects Investigation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Room 5328, NWS-210
Washington, D.C. 20590

FAX TRANSMITTAL

Date: 12/2/05

To: Franks Dientl

Company: Mercedes-Benz

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

From: Mike Lee

Fax Number: (202) 366-1767

Telephone Number: (202) 366- 5236

Message: PE05-051 closing Résumé

Page Count 2 (including cover page)

MODE = MEMORY TRANSMISSION

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END=DEC-02 14:55

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-NHTSA 001

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Office of Defects Investigation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
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FAX TRANSMITTAL

Date: 12/2/05

To: Patrick Raher

Company: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

From: Mike Lee

Fax Number: (202) 366-1767

Telephone Number: (202) 366-5236

Message: PE05-051 Closing Resumé

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