



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

## ODI RESUME

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

Manufacturer: Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.  
Products: 1998-2000 Mercedes Benz SLK230  
Population: 33,000 (estimated)

Problem Description: Brake lamps fail to illuminate.

### FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	13		
Crashes/Fires:	0		
Injury Incidents:	0		
# Injuries:	0		
Fatality Incidents:	0		
# Fatalities:	0		
Other*:	0		

\*Description Of Other:

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Engineer: Michael Lee MJL

Date: 09/22/2005

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper

Date: 09/22/2005

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 09/22/2005

Summary: ODI has received 13 complaints alleging brake lamp failure on model year 1998-2000 Mercedes Benz SLK230 vehicles. Based on the complaints, it appears that the brake lamp socket can melt and the brake lamp bulb burns out. Some of the complaints indicate that repeat failures occur after replacing the failed bulb.

*MJL*  
*9-22-05*