

MAY 13 2009

R. Latane Montague
Hogan & Hartson LLP
Columbia Square
555 Thirteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Request for Confidential Treatment / Mercedes Benz EA 08-009

Dear Mr. Montague:

This letter responds to your April 23, 2009, request for confidential treatment for Mercedes Benz USA, LLC (Mercedes), information submitted to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in a supplemental information request in the above-referenced investigation. The information labeled "confidential" is a one-page .pdf labeled "A 163 420 15 26 ZGS 005" of brake line specification drawings. You, on behalf of Mercedes, request confidential treatment indefinitely.

I have decided to grant your request.

The graphic depicts the brake line and other notes relating to the brake line. 49 C.F.R. § 512.16 allows the Chief Counsel to make class determinations. The information submitted for confidential treatment falls within the class of blueprints and engineering drawings presumed confidential under 49 C.F.R. Part 512, Appendix B. Accordingly, your request for confidential treatment is granted.

This grant of confidential treatment will remain in effect for an indefinite period of time and is subject to certain restrictions. The information may be disclosed under 49 C.F.R. § 512.22 based upon newly discovered or changed facts, and you must inform NHTSA of any changed circumstances that may affect the protection of the information (49 C.F.R. § 512.10). If necessary, you will be notified prior to the release of any information under the procedures established by our regulations (49 C.F.R. § 512.22(b)).

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Otto G. Matheke, III
Senior Attorney