

SEP 25 2008

Patrick M. Rahe
Hogan & Hartson LLP
Columbia Square
555 Thirteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Request for Confidential Treatment/Mercedes-Benz RQ08-002

Dear Mr. Rahe:

This responds to your June 5, 2008, letter requesting confidential treatment for Daimler AG and Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC ("Mercedes"), material submitted to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in response to an information request in the above-referenced investigation. The materials are sixteen (16) single-page engineering drawings in Attachment 13 on a CD-ROM. You, on behalf of Mercedes, request confidential treatment for the sixteen drawings for an indefinite period of time.

Mercedes contends that release of this subject information likely would cause substantial competitive harm. Mercedes states that this data is not public and is not publicly released by Mercedes. Your letter also contains a third party certification from the source of the drawings, Eaton Fluid Power GmbH (and Aeroquip, as part of Eaton).

I have decided to grant your request.

These drawings contain detailed specifications and dimensions and could be used to reproduce the parts in question without further engineering. They are subject to the class determination for blueprints and engineering drawings found in Appendix B of 49 C.F.R. § 512. Accordingly, your request for confidential treatment of the sixteen drawings in Attachment 13 is granted.

This grant of confidential treatment will remain in effect for an indefinite period of time, and is subject to certain conditions. The information may be disclosed under 49 C.F.R. § 512.22 based upon newly discovered or changed facts, and you must inform the Agency 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

