



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

## ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE08-002  
Date Opened: 1/10/2008      Date Closed:  
Principal Investigator: Chris Lash  
Subject: Brake line rupture

Manufacturer: Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC  
Products: 2002 Mercedes ML500/ML55 AMG with V-8 engine  
Population: 21,423 (estimated)

Problem Description: The brake line from the master cylinder to the ABS pump may be damaged and rupture from chaffing with a fuel line.

### FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	0	0	0
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

\*Description of Other:

Action: a Preliminary Evaluation (PE08-002) has been opened

Engineer: Chris Lash *CL*  
Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt  
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary: ODI received early warning data indicating that the brake tube from the master cylinder to the ABS pump may be damaged by contact with the main fuel line near the master cylinder in the subject vehicles. The contact can result in chaffing damage to both lines. ODI verified the concern by noting contact between the brake line and fuel line during an inspection of a subject vehicle. A preliminary evaluation has been opened to assess the scope, frequency and safety consequences of the alleged defect