



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 12-001
Date Opened: 01/23/2012
Investigator: Ali Motamedamin
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: Fuel System (Tank/Sender) Leakage
Reviewer: Scott Yon

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC.
Products: 2003-2006 E55 AMG Sedan and Wagon
Population: 8,130 (Estimated)
Problem Description: Fuel leakage at or near the top of the fuel tank assembly.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	20	TBD	TBD
Crashes/Fires:	0	TBD	TBD
Injury Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Fatality Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Other*:	0	TBD	TBD

***Description of Other:**

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation (PE) has been opened.

Summary:

Complainants report the odor of fuel/gasoline vapor either inside the car, or outside the car, with some reports associating presence of the odor with refueling of the vehicle. Additionally they allege fuel leakage in the area of the fuel module located on the top of the fuel tank and accessible by removing the rear seat cushion. Complainants allege the leakage results in liquid (raw) fuel pooling and/or spraying on other nearby vehicle components (e.g., an insulation barrier on the underside of the seat cushion). Several reports suggest the leakage may be related to a March, 2008 emissions recall conducted by Mercedes Benz (Emissions Recall Campaign # 2008-020001) which involved potential cracking of the fuel filter module in vehicles exposed to high ambient temperatures.

ODI is opening this investigation to further evaluate the scope, frequency, and consequence of these allegations.

The ODI reports cited above can be reviewed at www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/complaints under the following identification (ODI) numbers: 10438976, 10438094, 10436932, 10421689, 10419750, 10419674, 10416845, 10412369, 10395389, 10395388, 10395218, 10392711, 10382329, 10375162, 10364387, 10361675, 10352224, 10351785, 10350632, 10349997.