

**INITIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF DEFECT
INFORMATION REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. 01V-014 by the
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

JAN 22 2001

Part 573 Report Date: **January 17, 2001**

MANUFACTURER: **Mercedes-Benz USA, Inc.**

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: **Mr. William Kurtz, Department Manager,
Environmental and Safety Engineering**

FAX: **(201) 263-7367**

SUBJECT: 3,400 Mercedes-Benz 2001 CL-Class 215 and S-Class 220 model vehicles manufactured from November 2000 through January 2001. The sheathing material on the electrical connection of the heated windshield washer bottle hose could melt and cause the surrounding plastic and insulation to melt. (Mercedes-Benz Recall No. 2001-010002).

This is an **initial** acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be forthcoming shortly. After our review of your report and associated documents, we may have additional comments or concerns.

In accordance with Part 577, amended July 7, 1995, a draft owner notification letter must be submitted for review prior to mailing.

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter **in which notification to purchasers occurs**. *As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin during January 2001.* Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due in this office by April 30, 2001.

If you have any questions, please call:

Patricia Wallace, Recall Analyst on (202) 366-5232
or Jonathan White, Chief on (202) 366-5226
or by FAX (202) 366-7882
Recall Analysis Division

JAN 25 2001

Mr. William Kurtz
Department Manager, Environmental and
Safety Engineering
Mercedes-Benz USA, Inc.
PO Box 350
Montvale, NJ 07645-0350

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01V-014

Dear Mr. Kurtz:

We have received Mercedes-Benz USA, Inc.'s (Mercedes-Benz) Defect Information Report dated , submitted in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports." This recall involves 3,400 Mercedes-Benz 2001 CL-Class 215 and S-Class 220 model vehicles manufactured from November 2000 through January 2001. The sheathing material on the electrical connection of the heated windshield washer bottle hose could melt and cause the surrounding plastic and insulation to melt. **The assigned Identification Number for this recall is 01V-014 (Mercedes-Benz Recall No. 2001-010002).**

Mercedes-Benz is responsible for the remedy of these vehicles from this date forward, regardless of vehicle age, mileage, or ownership.

Owner Notification

A manufacturer conducting a safety recall is required to provide the estimated date on which it will begin sending notifications to owners that there is a safety-related defect or noncompliance and that a remedy without charge will be available, and the estimated date on which it will have completed such notification.

In addition, if a manufacturer subsequently becomes aware that either the beginning or the completion date reported to the agency will be delayed more than two weeks, it shall promptly advise the agency of the delay and the reasons therefore, and furnish a revised estimate.

Quarterly Status Reports

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter **in which notification to purchasers occurs**. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin during January 2001. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by April 30, 2001.

Recall Communications

Communications pertaining to safety recalls and issued by Mercedes-Benz to more than one distributor, dealer, purchaser, or owner are to be submitted to this office within 5 days of issuance as described under 49 CFR Part 573.5(c)(9). Where this information is sent over a period time, the communications are to be submitted within 5 days from the date the communications were first sent, and furnish the date, or range of dates, each communication was issued. This includes information transmitted by computer, telefax, or other electronic means; and initial or interim communications. All copies are to be in readable form and a written transcript should be provided for each non-written communication. Also, if the communication was not nationally and uniformly distributed, then identify the criteria used for the distribution.

Manufacturer Communications

Part 573.8, "Notices, Bulletins and Other Communications," requires that every motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment manufacturer shall furnish a copy of **all notices, bulletins, and other communications (including warranty and policy extension communiques and product improvement bulletins)** to manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or purchasers, regarding any defect in its vehicle or items of equipment (including any failure or malfunction beyond normal deterioration in use, any failure of performance, or any flaw or unintended deviation from design specifications), **whether or not such defect is safety related**. These notices or communications are to be submitted, regardless of the media used to transmit the information. Where communications are made orally or electronically, provide a transcript. In all other cases, provide the information in the media form used to transmit the information. On a case by case basis, we may require written transcripts of this material as well. Copies are to be submitted monthly, not more than 5 working days after the end of each month.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Pat Wallace at (202) 366-5232 or fax at (202) 366-7882.

Sincerely,



Jonathan D. White, Chief
Recall Analysis Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Safety Assurance