



Mercedes-Benz

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OFFICE OF  
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC  
A DaimlerChrysler Company

May 4, 2004

04V-228  
(3 pages)

Kenneth N. Weinstein  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street, S.W. (NSA-01)  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**Re: Part 573 Defect Information Report**

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Pursuant to the requirements of 49 C.F.R. Part 573, and on behalf of our parent company, DaimlerChrysler AG (DCAG), this letter advises you of a voluntary safety related recall for certain Mercedes-Benz vehicles. Specifically, Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) submits this report regarding certain Active Body Control (ABC) hydraulic hoses in certain 2001-2004 Model Year S-Class and CL-Class vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Manufacturer's Name

DaimlerChrysler AG, Stuttgart, Germany.

Designated Agent: Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC  
Montvale, NJ 07645

573.6(c)(2): Identification of Vehicles

Make	Line	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Mercedes-Benz	S-Class 220 Platform	2001 - 2004	April 2000 - March 2004
Mercedes-Benz	CL-Class 215 Platform	2001 - 2004	December 1999 - March 2004



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573.6(c)(3): Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect

3,763 S-Class and 2,475 CL-Class "subject vehicles" are potentially affected.

573.6(c)(4): Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect

It is estimated that 100% of the subject vehicles described above contain the condition described below.

573.6(c)(5): Description of Defect

DCAG has determined that on the subject vehicles corrosion may occur in the inner steel portions of the Active Body Control's high-pressure distribution hose due to extensive exposure to heat and humidity. Over time, corrosion may deteriorate the inner steel portions of the ABC's high-pressure distribution hose. This may result in ABC hydraulic fluid leakage from the subject vehicles.

573.6(c)(6): Chronology of Principal Events

DCAG's quality control department determined that on the subject S-Class and CL-Class vehicles, corrosion may occur at the inner steel structure of the Active Body Control's high-pressure distribution hose due to extensive exposure to humidity and high temperatures. Accordingly, DCAG has decided to initiate this preventive safety campaign to install new, corrosion resistant ABC high-pressure distribution hoses on all potentially affected subject vehicles.

573.6(c)(8): Remedy Program

MBUSA will conduct a voluntary recall campaign for the subject S-Class and CL-Class vehicles. The recall will be conducted in order to install new, corrosion resistant ABC high-pressure distribution hoses on all potentially affected subject vehicles. The owner notification process is being developed based on parts and service availability. The owner notification will include instructions on how to obtain reimbursement for repairs made prior to the recall notification.

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573.6(c)(9): Copies of Communications with Dealers or Purchasers

A copy will be provided when available.

573.6(c)(10): Copies of Proposed Owner Notification Letter

A copy will be provided when available.

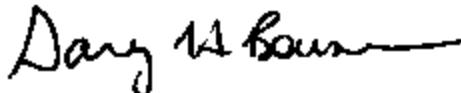
573.6(c)(11): Manufacturer's Campaign Identification Number

The MBUSA Recall Campaign Number will be provided when available.

\* \* \* \*

If you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (201) 573-2719 or Mr. Stephen Kraitz, of my staff, at 201-573-4118.

Sincerely,



Gary H. Bowne  
Department Manager,  
Product Compliance, Analysis and  
Safety Engineering