



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Frank Dierl
General Manager, Engineering Services

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

September 3, 2004

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defect Investigation
Attention: George Person, Chief Recall Analysis Division
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RECEIVED
NHTSA-215
2004 SEP 15 P 1:31
OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Re: 49 CFR Part 573; Recall of Mercedes-Benz S and CL-Class

Dear Mr. Person:

Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573.5(c)(9), this letter contains 2 documents that were communicated to our dealers on the above subject and will be submitted in Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) regular monthly mailing for the month of September, 2004.

Manufacturer's Campaign Identification Number
2004 070012

NHTSA Recall Number
04V-228

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

FD:sk

Enclosure



Route: All

To: All Mercedes-Benz Dealers

**Subject: Voluntary Recall Campaign MY 2001 – 2004 S and CL-Class
Active Body Control (ABC) (12 cylinder only)**

Date: August 31, 2004

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On May 10, 2004 you were notified that Mercedes-Benz USA LLC will conduct a voluntary recall campaign of certain model year 2001 – 2004 S and CL-Class vehicles, regarding a hydraulic hose in the Active Body Control System.

DCAG has determined that the high pressure hydraulic distribution hose of the Active Body Control (ABC) system in Model Year 2001 – 2004 S-600 and CL-600 vehicles may deteriorate over time due to extensive exposure to humidity and high temperatures. This could result in a loss of ABC hydraulic fluid from the vehicle. Under some circumstances leaking hydraulic fluid may come in contact with hot engine components and lead to a possibility of fire. Affected vehicles will be retrofitted with a new high pressure hydraulic distribution hose to correct this issue.

Approximately 6,238 vehicles in the US are affected by this voluntary recall. Today the dealer recall bulletin has been posted on StarTek and will be mailed to the dealers shortly. Customer letter mailings will also follow in a few days.

Please note that the customer letters for Trunk Lid Spring Recall Campaign MY 2003 – 2004 S and CL Class vehicles (V-12 only) has been mailed concurrently with this ABC Recall to eliminate the need for multiple customer letters and dealer visits. It is important for the Service Writer to check the VIN in VMI for each customer at the time the repair order is written in order to determine if the vehicle is involved in one or more open campaigns. Accordingly, please inform the customer if additional waiting time will be necessary based on multiple open campaigns.

Please refer any customer inquiries to the Customer Assistance Center, of MBUSA, at 1-800-FOR-MERCEdes. (1-800-367-6372)

**MBUSA Engineering Services
8/31/04**

FILE: **SERVICE:** **GROUP 00 OF SERVICE INFORMATION BINDER**
PARTS: **GROUP 1 OF INFORMATION – PARTS & ACCESSORIES BINDER**

Campaign No. 2004070012

August 2004

TO: **ALL MERCEDES-BENZ CENTERS**

SUBJECT: **MODELS 215.376/378, 220.176/178**
MODEL YEARS 2001 - 2004
REPLACEMENT OF ABC PRESSURE SUPPLY VALVE UNIT HYDRAULIC LINE

This Recall Campaign has been initiated because DCAG has determined that on the affected vehicles (see VIN range below) the high pressure hydraulic distribution hose of the Active Body Control (ABC) system in Model Year 2001 – 2004 S-600 and CL-600 vehicles may deteriorate over time due to extensive exposure to humidity and high temperatures. This could result in a loss of ABC hydraulic fluid from the vehicle. Under some circumstances leaking hydraulic fluid may come in contact with hot engine components and lead to a possibility of fire.

Please review the Effective Serial Number Chart located below.
Attached is a sample copy of a letter which owners of the affected vehicles will receive.

Prior to performing this Recall Campaign:

- Please check VMI to insure the vehicle is involved and to determine if the vehicle has been previously repaired.
- Please review the entire Recall Campaign bulletin.

Approximately 6240 vehicles are affected.

Effective Serial Number Range

Models	Chassis End Number	
	From	To
215.376	A030449	A042646
215.378	A003221	A027804
220.176	A308326	A421430
220.178	A128288	A301668

Order No. P-RC-2004070012

This bulletin has been created and maintained in accordance with MBUSA-SLP S423QH001, Document and Data Control, and MBUSA-SLP S424HH001, Control of Quality Records.

Procedure:



Warning!

Risk of Bodily Injury if skin or eyes are exposed to high pressure hydraulic fluid release.

- Ensure hydraulic fluid is depressurized before performing procedure.
- Please refer to WIS: AS00.00-Z0013-01A for all applicable safety precautions and information.



Caution!

Refer to WIS AH32.50-P-0001-02A prior to working on hydraulic system.

Note:

Refer to WIS: AH32.50-P-0001-01N prior to working on ABC system.

1. Drive vehicle onto a lift, shut-off engine and remove ignition key from electronic ignition switch.
2. Open engine hood.
3. Remove center and rear lower engine covers (WIS: AR61.20-P-1105M).
4. Remove cover behind left front wheel (attached to wheel well cover).
5. Release ABC rest pressure by loosening hydraulic line (5) at pressure supply valve unit (62):



Warning!

Engine must be turned off for at least 5 minutes to allow ABC to enter rest mode.

Slowly loosen fitting on line to allow gradual release of hydraulic fluid.

Note:

Drain hydraulic fluid into proper receptacle.

6. Loosen bolt (1) and turn line clamp (2) 90°.
7. Remove bolts (3) then remove heat shield (4).

8. Disconnect hydraulic hose (5) from pressure supply valve unit (52) and from front/rear axle valve unit (6) then remove line (5).
9. Install new hydraulic hose in reverse order, torque line fittings to 50Nm.
10. Fill ABC hydraulic reservoir to proper level and bleed system (WIS: AR32.50-P-0021N).
Note:
 Do not perform step 6.1 in WIS AR32.50-P-0021N.
11. Inspect new hose for leaks.
12. Reassemble vehicle in reverse order.

Parts Information

Qty.	Part Name	Part Number
1	Distribution (hydraulic) line	A 220 320 04 54 05
1 (liter) ¹	Hydraulic oil (Pentosin)	BQ 1320001

¹ One liter of Hydraulic oil is sufficient amount to treat 2 vehicles. Submit as a local purchase "HydOil00960" quantity 1. (handling is included)

Note:

The following allowable Labor Operations should be used when submitting a warranty claim for this repair.

Warranty Information

Operation: ABC hydraulic line-Pressure supply valve unit to front axle/rear axle distribution unit replace (02-4348)

Damage Code	Operation Number	Labor Time (hrs.)	Model Indicator(s)
32 940 D1	02-4348	1.8 hrs.	M4, M6, N2, N4

NOTE REGARDING CUSTOMER REIMBURSEMENT

Reimbursement to customers for repairs performed prior to this recall:

If the customer already paid to have this recall condition repaired and provides adequate documentation to support their claim of a non-warranty repair of this item, they may be eligible to receive reimbursement.

Requests for reimbursement may include parts, labor, fees and taxes. Reimbursement may be limited to the amount the repair would have cost if completed by an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer.

See "Reimbursement to Customer for repairs performed prior to recall" in MBUSA's Warranty Policy and Procedures Manual.

Please note the claim submitted for customer reimbursement will not close the campaign (if still open).

If the customer is still in possession of the vehicle with an open campaign, please arrange to close the recall in the usual manner.

Safety Recall #2004-070012

August, 2004

Dear Mercedes-Benz Owner,

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. WE SENT YOU THIS NOTICE BECAUSE WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR SAFETY.

DaimlerChrysler AG (DCAG), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain Model Year 2001 - 2004 S-600 and CL-600 vehicles. Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) therefore has initiated a recall of these vehicles. Our records indicate that your vehicle is included in this group.

DCAG has determined that the high pressure hydraulic distribution hose of the Active Body Control (ABC) system in Model Year 2001 - 2004 S-600 and CL-600 vehicles may deteriorate over time due to extensive exposure to humidity and high temperatures. This could result in a loss of ABC hydraulic fluid from the vehicle. Under some circumstances leaking hydraulic fluid may come in contact with hot engine components and lead to a possibility of fire.

Your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer is available to provide this service, free of charge. The working time required is approximately two hours. Please contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer to schedule an appointment at your earliest convenience. Please mention Recall Campaign #2004-070012.

If you are no longer the vehicle owner, or have a change of address, please complete the reverse side of this letter and return the complete letter in the enclosed envelope. If this is a leased vehicle and the lessee and registered owner receive this notice, please forward this information by first class mail to the lessee. If you have paid to have this recall condition corrected prior to this notice you may be eligible to receive reimbursement. Please see the reverse side of this notice for details.

Please contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer should you have any questions or encounter any difficulty regarding this recall. If your dealer is unable to remedy your situation please contact us at 1-(800) FOR-MERCEDES (1-800-367-6372).

If an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer or Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC, fails or is unable to perform this service without charge within 60 days, pursuant to law 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590 or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236.

Again, we apologize for any inconvenience this situation may cause you.

Sincerely,

Klaus Ulkann
Vice President, Customer Services