



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

MAY 13 2005

NVS-215
05V-224

FRANK DIERTL
MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC.
GENERAL MANAGER, ENGINEERING SERVICES
ONE MERCEDES DR, PO BOX 350
MONTVALE NJ 07645-0350

Subject: POWER STEERING HOSE CLAMP

Dear MR. DIERTL:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect or noncompliance information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this is the information that will be made available to the public.

Makes/Models/Model Years:
MERCEDES BENZ/M-CLASS/2006

NHTSA Campaign Number: 05V-224

Recall Date: May 13, 2005

Components:
STEERING:HYDRAULIC POWER ASSIST SYSTEM

Potential Number of Units Affected: 7191

Summary:
ON CERTAIN PASSENGER VEHICLES, A HOSE CLAMP THAT SECURES THE POWER STEERING FLUID COOLING HOSE TO THE POWER STEERING FLUID COOLER MAY NOT PROVIDE SUFFICIENT CLAMPING FORCE FOR THIS CONNECTION.

Consequence:
A LOSS OF POWER STEERING FLUID CAN DAMAGE THE POWER STEERING PUMP AND MAY RESULT IN DIMINISHED POWER ASSIST FOR STEERING WHICH COULD LEAD TO A CRASH.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL REPLACE THE POWER STEERING HOSE CLAMP. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON MAY 23, 2005. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT MERCEDES-BENZ AT 1-800-367-6372.

Notes:

MERCEDES BENZ RECALL NO. 2005 050004. CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236.

Effective October 21, 2004, a manufacturer must provide an estimated dealer notification date (month/day/year) when submitting a defect/noncompliance report (Part 573.6).

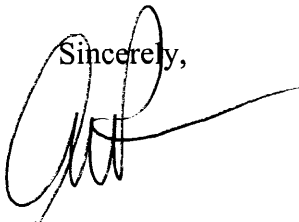
We have reviewed your proposed owner letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577.

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, 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 May 2005. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by July 30, 2005.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov or delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division