



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Frank Diertl
General Manager, Engineering Services

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

April 15, 2005

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

Re: 49 CFR Part 573; Recall of Mercedes-Benz E, SL-Class, and CLS-Class

Dear Mr. Person:

Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573.5(c)(9), this letter contains 1 document that was 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 April, 2005.

Manufacturer's Campaign Identification Number
Unavailable

NHTSA Recall Number
05V-133

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Gary Bowne at 201-573-2719.

Sincerely,

FD:sk

Enclosure

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MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC
One Mercedes Drive, P.O. Box 350, Montvale, NJ 07645-0350
Phone (201) 573-0600
Fax (201) 573-0117
MBUSA.com



**To: All Mercedes-Benz Dealer Principals, General Managers, Sales Managers, Service Managers,
Parts Managers**

From: Frank J. Diertl, General Manager, Engineering Services

Date: April 13, 2005

Re: Notification of Worldwide Quality Initiatives – Update; April 13, 2005

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In a press release dated March 31, 2005, the head of Mercedes-Benz, Dr. Eckhard Cordes announced a “worldwide recall” aimed at “improving the quality of passenger cars already in the field” as part of an overall quality initiative designed to address and eliminate potential customer complaints, and improve overall consumer satisfaction.

In the U.S. market, this quality initiative will consist of three actions:

- **SBC Brake System Recall:** On E-Class, SL-Class and CLS-Class models built between June 2001 and March 2005, the SBC brake systems will be serviced to reduce the potential for vehicles to switch unnecessarily to the hydraulic back-up braking mode. This service will be handled as a voluntary safety recall. The recall will include two action items: 1) a retention bracket for the wiring harness connection to the SBC hydraulic unit will be added, and the ground wire will be replaced on all subject vehicles to assure connection integrity; 2) on a small subset of the subject vehicles built between November 2003, and January 2004, a production tolerance variation with pump piston may cause premature failures. The hydraulic pump unit will be replaced on this subset of vehicles.
- **Voltage Regulator Inspection/Replacement:** On all vehicles with six and eight-cylinder gasoline engines built between June 2001 and November 2004, the voltage regulator may be adversely affected by heat and humidity. The resulting malfunction can impair the charging functionality of the alternator and lead to customer complaints regarding the battery and electrical system performance. All affected voltage regulators will be replaced at the next regular service visit following the release of updated parts and service instructions. This is not a safety issue and will be handled as a service action, and not a voluntary safety recall.
- **Battery Control Unit:** E-Class and CLS-Class models built between January 2002 and January 2005 will receive a battery control unit software update that will enhance the long-term reliability of the battery control unit’s memory function. All affected battery control units will be updated at the next regular service visit following the release of the updated software and service instructions. This is not a safety issue and will be handled as a service action, and not a voluntary safety recall.

All three of the actions involved in this quality initiative will be implemented in a coordinated manner by MBUSA. The initiative will be phased-in based on parts availability, and in a manner designed to minimize customer inconvenience and dealer workload. Where feasible, the initiative will be implemented to effectively minimize the number of separate service visits required by individual customers; to the extent possible MBUSA will also attempt to bundle in other outstanding recalls and service actions required on individual VINs.

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The implementation process and schedule is currently being developed. You will receive an update on this process and copies of the related customer communications as these details are developed.

If customers have additional questions, please refer them to the Mercedes-Benz Customer Assistance Center – 1 800 FOR MERCEdes (1-800-367-6372)

Additional information will be communicated as it becomes available.



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