



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC  
Frank Dierl  
General Manager, Engineering Services

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

December 13, 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

RECEIVED  
OFFICE OF DEFECT INVESTIGATION  
400 SEVENTH STREET, S.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590  
2005 DEC 22 PM 1:30  
PA

**Re: 49 CFR Part 573; Recall of Mercedes-Benz SLK (170) Tail Lamps**

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 December, 2005.

Manufacturer's Campaign Identification Number  
Not available at this time.

NHTSA Recall Number  
05V-505

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

Sincerely,

FD:sk

Enclosure



# UPDATE

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

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

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**Date: December 13, 2005**

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**Re: Recall Campaign – Tail Lamps - Model 170**

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On October 28, 2005 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) was notified that Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC will conduct a voluntary Recall Campaign on certain model year 1998 - 2004 SLK (170) vehicles with regard to the tail lamps. This notification will be posted on the NHTSA web site and may generate some customer questions

Due to heat generated by the brake lamps the base of the lamp socket can be subject to thermal deformation over time. This deformation can cause movement in the socket-to-bulb connection, which may lead to a loosening of the electrical contacts in the sockets, and a failure of the bulb to illuminate. This can cause a failure on either of the side brake lights. (The center brake light is not affected.)

This Recall Campaign affects approximately 69,278 vehicles in the U.S. All rear lamp modules in affected vehicles will be replaced with redesigned rear lamp modules. The new module is now being designed and will use a more heat resistant material and enhanced lamp holder mountings.

Due to the time required to re-tool this part the Recall will be launched, and notification sent to customers, no sooner than sometime in the second quarter of 2006. As soon as sufficient parts supplies are made available and customer notification begins we will contact you with further information on the release of this campaign.

While we regret any inconvenience this causes, Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC is determined to maintain a high level of vehicle quality and customer satisfaction.

Please refer all customer inquiries to the Customer Assistance Center at 1-800-FOR-MERCEdes (1800-367-6372).