



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Rolf Scherer
General Manager, Engineering Services

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

November 3, 2006

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
NOV 14 2006
SA

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 November, 2006.

Manufacturer's Campaign Identification Number
2006080005

NHTSA Recall Number
05V-505

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

Sincerely,

RS: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

From: Rolf Scherer, General Manager, Engineering Services

Date: November 3, 2006

Re: Phase II Customer Notification - Recall Campaign 2006080005 – Replace Tail Lamps, Model 170 Model Year 1998 – 2000

On September 8, 2006 you were notified that Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC launched a voluntary Recall Campaign on certain model year 1998 - 2004 Model (170) SLK vehicles with regard to the tail lamps. Today MBUSA will continue the launch of this recall campaign in the second phase for MY 1998 – 2000 vehicles only.

Due to the volume of affected vehicles, network service capacity, and to maintain an adequate and uninterrupted parts supply, VIN's will be added to the campaign in two stages. Approximately 32,618 affected Model 170 VIN's (pre facelift MY '98 – '00 vehicles only) are currently flagged in VMI. The remaining 36,000 affected Model 170 (post facelift MY '01 – '04) vehicles will be added to the campaign only when replacement tail lamps are made available in Q1 2007.

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 brake lamp bulbs to illuminate. The center brake light is not affected. A failure of the bulbs to illuminate could lead to a rear end vehicle crash.

A quantity of the required parts will be distributed automatically to dealers beginning this week for Phase II. However to maintain an adequate and uninterrupted parts supply, only 8,200 owner's letters will be mailed early next week in the second phase. Any vehicle flagged in VMI may be repaired irrespective of the customer receiving a recall notification letter.

When scheduling customers for an appointment please ensure that you are aware of any open campaigns in VMI so that the customer is advised about the time necessary to complete all campaigns.

Note: VMI must always be checked before performing campaigns to verify that the campaign is required on a specific vehicle.

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 (1-800-367-6372).

Issue	Models Affected	Repair Time (hours)	2006					2007										
			Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug			
Tail Lamp Recall Customer Letter	MY 98 - 00 170	0.5	◇			◇	◆											

Approx 8,200 SLK Customer Letters Phase I and II. 16,400 Phase III

◆ = Partial Launch