



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Rolf Scherer
General Manager, Engineering Services

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

November 22, 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

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 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 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 22, 2006

Re: Recall Campaign 2006080005 – Update - Replace Tail Lamps, Model 170 Model Year 1998 – 2000

Vehicle operator's manual labels indicating the correct bulb part number assignments are now available.

A copy of the updated campaign bulletin is attached, and may also be found on StarTekInfo. Please provide the revised campaign bulletin to your technicians and destroy all previous Service campaign bulletin versions.

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

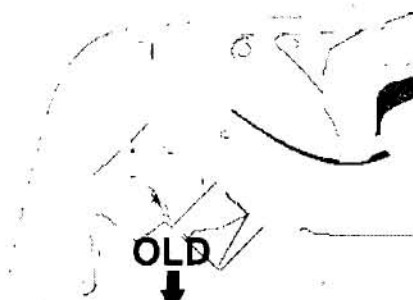
Please refer all customer inquiries to the Customer Assistance Center at 1-800-FOR-MERCEdes (1-800-367-6372).

Instruments and controls	Operation	Driving	Instrument cluster display	Practical hints	Car care	Technical data	Index
--------------------------	-----------	---------	----------------------------	------------------------	----------	----------------	-------

External lamps

222

Tail lamp assemblies



OLD

Open trunk lid:

Remove cover in right side panel, and first aid kit in left side panel.

Twist bulb socket counterclockwise and pull out. Push bulb into socket, turn counterclockwise and remove.

Insert new bulb in socket, push in and twist clockwise. Reinstall bulb socket, and close cover.

NEW

- 1 Stop Lamp (1154 21W/32 cp bulb)
- 2 Turn signal lamp (1156 NA 21 W/24 cp bulb)
- 3 Tail, parking and standing lamp (67 5W/4 cp bulb)
- 4 Backup lamp (1154 21 W/32 cp bulb)
- Driver's side:
 - Rear fog lamp (1155 21W/32 cp bulb)

- 1 Stop Lamp (P 21W)
- 2 Turn signal lamp (PY 21W)
- 3 Tail, parking and standing lamp (R 5W)
- 4 Backup lamp (P 21W)
- 5 Driver's side:
 - Rear fog lamp (P 21W)

FILE: SERVICE: GROUP 00 OF SERVICE INFORMATION BINDER
PARTS: GROUP I OF INFORMATION _ PARTS & ACCESSORIES BINDER

Campaign No. 2006080005, November 2006

Revision History

Revision	Date	Purpose
B	11/22/06	Update to reflect new Operator's Manual label part number
A	09/22/06	Correction of bulb assignment in Operator's Manual label
-	09/08/06	Initial issue

TO: ALL MERCEDES-BENZ CENTERS

SUBJECT: **MODEL 170, MODEL YEAR 1998-2000**
REPLACE TAIL LAMPS

This Recall Campaign has been initiated because DCAG has determined that due to the heat generated by the brake lamps of the affected vehicles (see VIN range on the following page) 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 of either brake light (the center brake light is not affected). A failure of the brake lamp bulbs to illuminate could lead to a rear end vehicle crash. Dealer will replace all rear lamp modules in affected vehicles with new rear lamp modules redesigned with a more heat resistant material, different bulbs, and enhanced lamp holder mountings. Dealer will also place a label in the vehicle operator's manual indicating new bulb part number assignment.

Please review the Effective Serial Number chart located on the following page.

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 32,618 vehicles are affected.

Order No. P-RC-2006080005

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.

Effective Serial Number Range

Models	Chassis End Number	
	From	To
170.447	F000909	F171342

Note:

Every vehicle in the VIN range may not be included in the campaign. VMI must always be checked before performing campaigns to verify that the campaign is required on a specific vehicle. VMI **always** overrides the bulletin in reference to a specific vehicle's inclusion in a particular campaign. Please also note that Recall and Service Campaigns **do not expire** and may also be performed on a vehicle with a vehicle status indicator.

Procedure**WARNING!**

Risk of injury to skin and eyes from handling hot or glowing objects.

1. Open trunk lid.
2. Remove first-aid kit on left side; remove flap in wheelhouse paneling and CD changer (if applicable) on right side.
3. Remove nuts (A, Figure 1).
4. Disconnect electrical connector (B).
5. Replace tail lamps (C) on both sides of vehicle.

Note:

Ensure to install and position seal (D) correctly when installing new tail lamp.

6. Reassemble in reverse order.

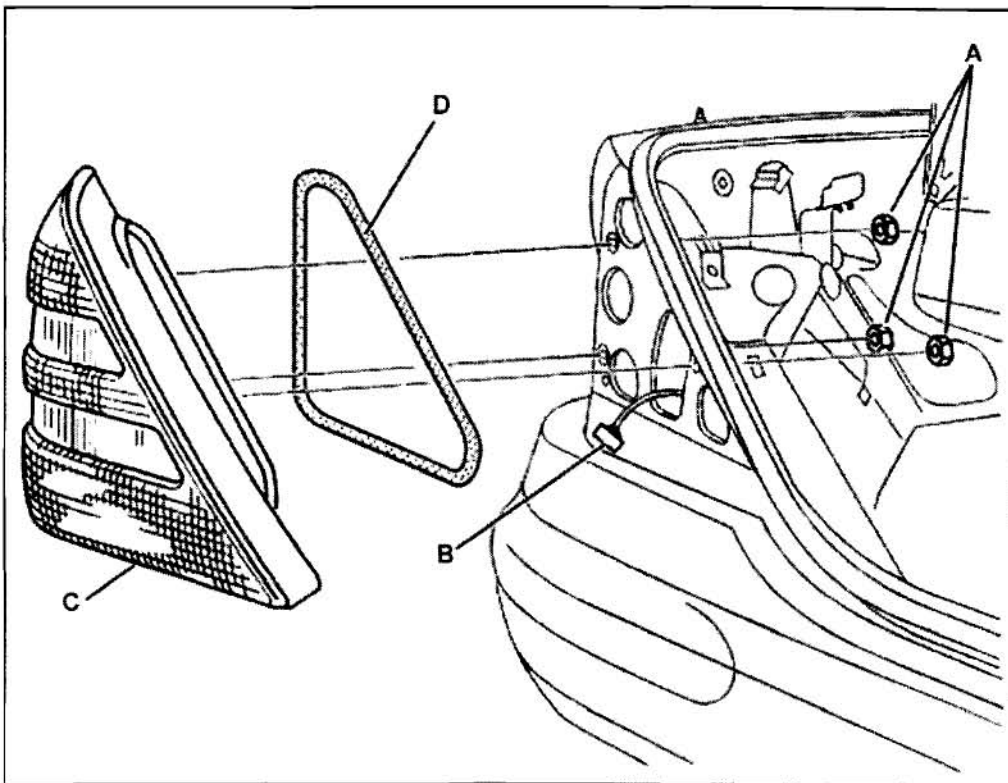


Figure 1

7. Place new label over previous lamp specifications in Operator's Manual as shown in Figure 2 for Model Years 1998-2000.

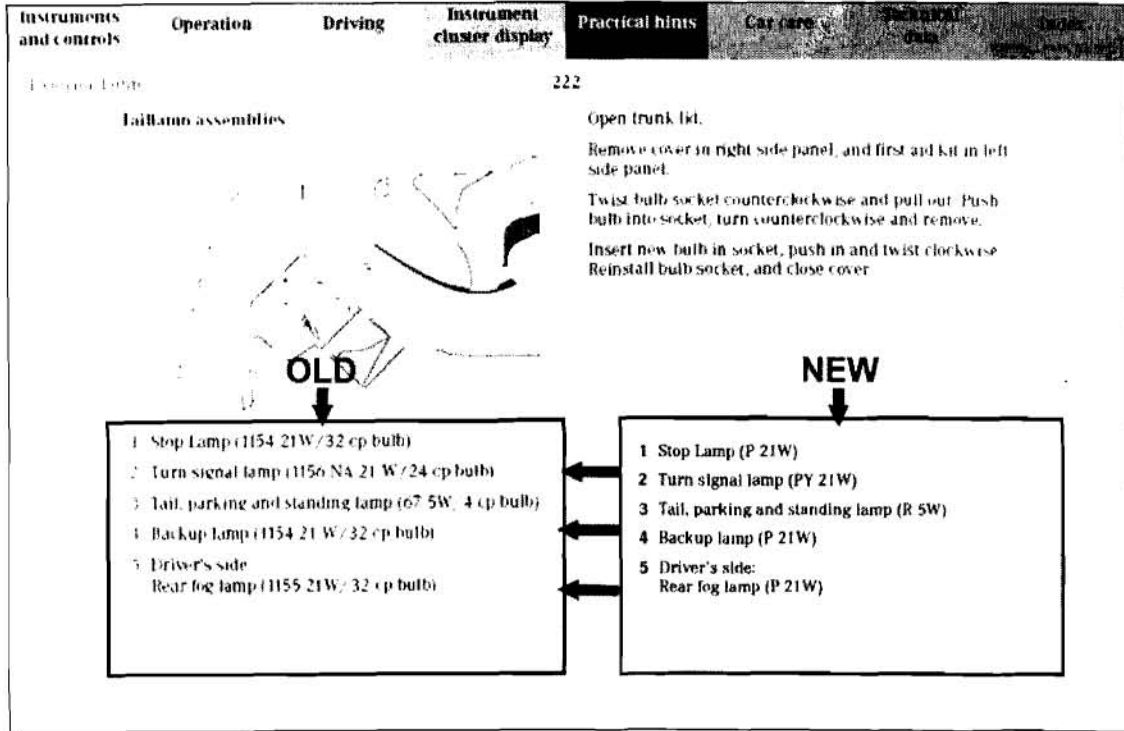


Figure 2

(Operator's Manual MY1998-2000)

Parts Information

Qty.	Part Name		Part Number	Estimated Replacement Rate
1	Right tail lamp	(MY 1998-2000)	A 170 820 1464 05	100%
1	Left tail lamp	(MY 1998-2000)	A 170 820 1564 05	
1	Adhesive label	(MY 1998-2000)	BQ 900 0010	

Note:

- Please be aware that only the part number(s) referenced in the Campaign Bulletin is/are approved for use to repair the vehicle. Repairs performed using any other part(s) will not have been performed in accordance with the campaign. Accordingly, warranty claims submitted with reference to an improper part number(s) will be denied.
- The following allowable labor operation should be used when submitting a warranty claim for this repair:

Warranty Information

Operation: Tail Lamp Units (Both), Replace (02-5323)

Damage Code	Operation Number	Labor Time (hrs.)	Model Indicator(s)
82 920 36 7	02-5323	0.5 h	G1

NOTE REGARDING CUSTOMER REIMBURSEMENT

Reimbursement to customers for repairs performed prior to this recall:

If the customer already paid to have this recall campaign 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 is limited to the amount the repair of the Tail Lamps and related parts associated to the replacement would have cost if completed by an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer under this campaign.

Submit a warranty claim, utilizing Damage Code 82 920 36 8 as a sublet, utilizing the sublet code of "SUB." Sublet repairs require dealer text as stated in the Warranty Policies and Procedures Manual. Repair date should be the date that the customer paid for the repair.

Note:

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 campaign in the usual manner as described in this bulletin.

Note:

If the Operator's Manual is missing from the vehicle, it will not be replaced as part of this campaign.



Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Klaus Ulkann
Vice President, Customer Services

Safety Recall #2006080005

September, 2006

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 1998 - 2004 SLK-Class vehicles with regard to the tail lamp assemblies. Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) therefore has initiated a recall of these vehicles. Our records indicate that your vehicle is included in the affected population of vehicles.

DCAG has determined that due to heat generated by the brake lamps, the base of the lamp sockets 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 condition can cause a failure of either side brake lamp bulbs to illuminate. The center brake lamp is not affected. A failure of the brake lamp bulbs to illuminate could lead to a rear end vehicle crash.

Your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will install redesigned tail lamp assemblies using more heat resistant material and enhanced lamp holder mountings to withstand the heat generated by the brake lamps. This service will be provided free of charge. The working time required to repair this condition is approximately 1 hour. As a matter of normal service process, your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will also check for other repair measures which might be applicable to your vehicle and this may increase the required working time. Please contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer for additional information and to schedule an appointment at your earliest convenience. Please mention Recall Campaign #2006080005.

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 lessor 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 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We apologize for any inconvenience this situation may cause you.

Sincerely,

One Mercedes Drive, P.O. Box 350, Montvale, NJ 07645-0350. Phone 1-800-FOR-MERcedes (1-800-367-6372). Fax (201) 476-6211
www.MBUSA.com



Mercedes-Benz registered trademarks of DaimlerChrysler AG, Stuttgart, Federal Republic of Germany



IMPORTANT

IF FOR ANY REASON YOU DO NOT NOW OWN THIS VEHICLE OR HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS, PLEASE COMPLETE THE SECTION BELOW, PLACE IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE, AND DROP IN ANY MAIL BOX. IF POSSIBLE, PROVIDE THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PRESENT OWNER SO THAT WE MAY CONTACT THEM.

- SCRAPPED
- STOLEN
- OTHER _____
- SOLD _____ I HAVE SOLD THE VEHICLE TO:
- MY NEW ADDRESS IS:

NAME

STREET _____ **APT.** _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

PHONE _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

**** PLEASE DO NOT DETACH. RETURN COMPLETE LETTER ****
DO NOT USE THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE FOR OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

Reimbursement to Customers for Repairs Performed Prior to Recall

If you have already paid to have this recall condition corrected you 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. The following documentation must be presented to your dealer for reimbursement.

Original or clear copy of all receipts, invoices and/or repair orders that show:

- The name and address of the person who paid for the repair.
- The Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) of the vehicle that was repaired.
- What problem occurred, what repair was done, when it was done and who repaired it.
- The total cost of the repair expense that is being claimed.
- Proof of payment of repair (copy of front and back of cancelled check, or copy of credit card receipt).
- Reimbursement will be made by check from your dealer. If your claim is denied you will receive a letter from MBUSA within 60 days of receipt with the reason(s) for the denial.

Please speak with your dealer concerning this matter.



Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Königsplatz 100
 70372 Stuttgart, Germany

Safety Recall #2006080005

November, 2006

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 1998 - 2004 SLK-Class vehicles with regard to the tail lamp assemblies. Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) therefore has initiated a recall of these vehicles. Our records indicate that your vehicle is included in the affected population of vehicles.

DCAG has determined that due to heat generated by the brake lamps, the base of the lamp sockets 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 condition can cause a failure of either side brake lamp bulbs to illuminate. The center brake lamp is not affected. A failure of the brake lamp bulbs to illuminate could lead to a rear end vehicle crash.

This is the first of **two letters** you will receive regarding this condition. This letter is being sent to let you know that if you experience a rear lamp failure your dealer will repair or provide you a replacement lamp assembly at no charge. At this time your dealer does not have the new design of lamp assembly in stock and the free initial repair will be made with the original design. Beginning in the Spring of 2007, dealers will receive replacement lamp assemblies of a new design. The redesigned tail lamp assemblies will use more heat resistant material and enhanced lamp holder mountings to better withstand the heat generated by the brake lamp. At that time, MBUSA will provide you a second notice to let you know that the new lamps are in stock, and that you should contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer to make the repair. When you receive your second letter you should immediately schedule an appointment to have the replacement lamp assembly installed even if your existing tail lamps have not failed or have been replaced with the original design. Only when the new design is installed will your equipment function as originally intended.

Until the new design lamp assembly is available, your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will replace failed assemblies at no charge with compatible lamp assemblies that are now in dealer stock. This service will be provided free of charge. The working time required to repair this condition is approximately 1 hour. As a matter of normal service process, your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will also check for other repair measures which might be applicable to your vehicle and this may increase the required working time. Please contact your authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer for additional information and to schedule an appointment at this time only if you experience tail lamp failure. Please mention Recall Campaign #2006080005.

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 lessor 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 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We apologize for any inconvenience this situation may cause you.

Sincerely,

One Mercedes Drive, P.O. Box 350, Montvale, NJ 07645-0350, Phone: 1-800-FOR-MERCEdes (1-800-367-6372), Fax: (201) 476-6211
www.MBUSA.com



Mercedes-Benz registered trademarks of DaimlerChrysler AG, Stuttgart, Federal Republic of Germany



P-RC-2006080005

IMPORTANT

IF FOR ANY REASON YOU DO NOT NOW OWN THIS VEHICLE OR HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS, PLEASE COMPLETE THE SECTION BELOW, PLACE IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE, AND DROP IN ANY MAIL BOX. IF POSSIBLE, PROVIDE THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PRESENT OWNER SO THAT WE MAY CONTACT THEM.

- SCRAPPED
 STOLEN
 OTHER _____
 SOLD I HAVE SOLD THE VEHICLE TO: _____
 MY NEW ADDRESS IS: _____

NAME _____

STREET _____ APT. _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

**** PLEASE DO NOT DETACH. RETURN COMPLETE LETTER ****
 DO NOT USE THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE FOR OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

Reimbursement to Customers for Repairs Performed Prior to Recall

If you have already paid to have this recall condition corrected you 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. The following documentation must be presented to your dealer for reimbursement.

Original or clear copy of all receipts, invoices and/or repair orders that show:

- The name and address of the person who paid for the repair.
- The Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) of the vehicle that was repaired.
- What problem occurred, what repair was done, when it was done and who repaired it.
- The total cost of the repair expense that is being claimed.
- Proof of payment of repair (copy of front and back of cancelled check, or copy of credit card receipt).
- Reimbursement will be made by check from your dealer. If your claim is denied you will receive a letter from MBUSA within 60 days of receipt with the reason(s) for the denial.

Please speak with your dealer concerning this matter.