



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

February 9, 2006

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

NVS-215
06V-028

Subject: INSTRUMENT CLUSTER FAILURE

Dear MR. DIERTL:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

MERCEDES BENZ/CL CLASS/2000-2002
MERCEDES BENZ/CL CLASS/2004-2005
MERCEDES BENZ/S CLASS/2000-2002
MERCEDES BENZ/S CLASS/2004-2005

NHTSA Campaign Number: 06V-028

Mfg's Report Date: February 1, 2006

Components: INTERIOR LIGHTING

Potential Number of Units Affected: 36,911

Summary:

ON CERTAIN VEHICLES, THE INSTRUMENT CLUSTER BACKLIGHTING CAN EXPERIENCE ELECTRICAL MALFUNCTIONS RESULTING IN THE FAILURE TO ILLUMINATE THE GAUGES.

Consequence:

THE DRIVER COULD BE UNABLE TO READ THE GAUGES AND INDICATORS, SUCH AS THE SPEEDOMETER, WHICH COULD INCREASE THE RISK OF A CRASH.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL REPLACE THE INSTRUMENT CLUSTER MODULES FREE OF CHARGE. THE MANUFACTURER HAS NOT YET PROVIDED AN OWNER NOTIFICATION SCHEDULE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT MERCEDES-BENZ AT 1-800-367-6372.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

This recall was the subject of a Preliminary Evaluation, PE05-062, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

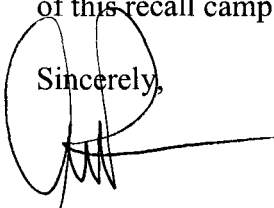
Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

Please provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available.

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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 required 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).

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
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement