



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

Rolf Scherer
General Manager, Engineering Services

2006 DEC 21 P 3:40

C.

December 21, 2006

06V-495
(3 pages)

SENT BY FAX 202-366-8065 AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Part 573 Defect Information Report

Dear Mr. Smith:

Pursuant to the requirements of 49 C.F.R. Part 573, and on behalf of Mercedes-Benz U.S. International, Inc. and our parent company, DaimlerChrysler AG (DCAG), this letter advises you of a safety related defect for certain Mercedes-Benz vehicles. Specifically, Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) submits this report regarding the accelerator pedal mounting on certain M and R-Class vehicles described below.

573.6(c)(1): Manufacturer's Name

Mercedes-Benz U.S. International, Inc.
Tuscaloosa, Alabama
Under Contract for DaimlerChrysler AG, Stuttgart, Germany.

Designated Agent: Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC
Montvale, NJ 07645

573.6(c)(2): Identification of Vehicles

Make	Line	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Mercedes-Benz	M-Class (164)	2007	November 28, - December 12, 2006
Mercedes-Benz	R-Class (251)	2007	November 28, - December 12, 2006



573.6(c)(3): Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect

Approximately 1,297 M-Class and 283 R-Class vehicles are potentially affected in the US. Of these vehicles approximately 90% are still in dealer possession.

573.6(c)(4): Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect

The percentage of vehicles that are projected to actually contain the issues described below is less than 1%.

573.6(c)(5): Description of Defect

DCAG has determined that the accelerator pedal in some M and R-Class vehicles might not have been fully fastened to its mounting studs on a small number of vehicles. Due to the geometry and tension in the assembly, the mounting studs will maintain the position of the accelerator pedal on affected vehicles, but may, over time, not maintain a consistent pedal position, which could make it more difficult to operate the accelerator. All other functions of the vehicle (engine acceleration, deceleration, and braking) will, however, remain fully functional.

573.6(c)(6): Chronology of Principal Events

DaimlerChrysler was made aware of incorrect mounting by the feedback from the quality assurance department at the production plant in Tuscaloosa. Accordingly, DCAG has decided to initiate this preventive safety recall campaign to inspect and if necessary to install the mounting nuts of the accelerator pedal. DaimlerChrysler is not aware of any complaints related to this situation.

573.6(c)(8)(i): Remedy Program

MBUSA will conduct a voluntary safety recall campaign for the subject M and R-Class vehicles described above. The recall will be conducted to inspect and if necessary to install the mounting nuts of the accelerator pedal.

573.6(c)(8)(ii): Estimated Date of Owner Notification

MBUSA estimates owner notification will begin in early January, 2007.

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573.6(c)(10): Copies of Communications with Dealers or Purchasers

A copy will be provided when available. Dealers will be notified to inspect and, if necessary, correct the condition beginning on December 21, 2006.

573.6(c)(11): Copies of Proposed Owner Notification Letter

A copy will be provided when available.

573.6(c)(12): Manufacturer's Campaign Identification Number

The MBUSA Recall Campaign Number will be 2006120008.

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If you or your staff has any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Gary H. Bowne at (201) 573-2719.

Sincerely,



Rolf Scherer
General Manager,
Engineering Services

cc: George Person fax 202-366-7882
Thomas Z. Cooper fax 202-366-1767