



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

A DaimlerChrysler Company

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

APR 3 2006 10:01

April 3, 2006

DEFECT INVESTIGATION

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 R-Class (251) Starter Wiring Harness**

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 April, 2006.

Manufacturer's Campaign Identification Number

Not available at this time.

NHTSA Recall Number

Not available at this time.

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

Sincerely,

Gary Bown  
Department Manager, Product Compliance, Analysis and Safety Engineering  
Engineering Services

GB:sk

Enclosure



# NEWSCHANNEL 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: Gary Bowne, Department Manager, Product Compliance, Analysis and Safety Engineering, Engineering Services**

**Date: April 3, 2006**

---

**Re: Recall Campaign – Second Row Seat Belt Buckle, Model 251**

**Recall Campaign – Starter Wiring Harness, Model 251**

---

- **Recall Campaign – Second Row Seat Belt Buckle, Model 251**

On March 31, 2006 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) was notified that Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC will conduct a voluntary Recall Campaign on certain model year 2006 R-Class vehicles with regard to the second row seat belt buckle.

DCAG has determined that due to a production deficiency occurring at the supplier during the production process, the threads in the nut used to secure the seat belt buckle in a limited number of second row seats may be missing. The absence of the screw threads results in an incomplete connection of the buckle to the seat.

This Recall Campaign affects approximately 2,500 R-Class vehicles in the U.S. The dealer will check the second row seat belt buckles in affected vehicles and replace the seat if necessary.

- **Recall Campaign – Starter Wiring Harness, Model 251**

Also on March 31, 2006, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) was notified that Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC will conduct a voluntary Recall Campaign on certain model year 2006 R-Class vehicles with regard to the starter wiring harness.

DCAG has determined that the starter wiring harness may be routed incorrectly. This routing could lead to chafing of the protective sleeve covering the starter wiring harness at the engine mount cover. Over time, such chafing has the potential to wear through the protective sleeve and may expose the underlying starter wiring harness to further chafing, which could result in a drop in voltage and loss of function of the electrical system.

This Recall Campaign affects approximately 7,000 R-Class vehicles in the U.S. The dealer will check and reroute the starter wiring harness and if necessary replace affected parts exhibiting signs of chafing.

**These notifications will be posted on the NHTSA web site and may generate some customer questions.**

We will contact you with further information on the release of these campaigns in late April 2006.

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