

26 E-014

[Letterhead of the Repair Shop, Installer, Dealer, etc.]

[Name & Address of Vehicle Owner]

Re: Safety Check of Your Vehicle

Dear _____:

This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Highway Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

ZF Trading North America, LLC has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain wheel bearing kits (Lemfoerder Part No. 1402301) that may have been installed on 1992-2001 Mercedes Benz SL500 (R129) vehicles after April 1, 2005.

It is possible that the caliper bolts used in the wheel bearing kit may be defective and shear off and break. These bolts are an integral part of the wheel bearing kit and connect the brake caliper to the wheel mount. If one of these bolts breaks, the brake caliper may impinge upon the brake rotor, causing noise and vibrations that may cause the driver to stop the vehicle. If both calipers mounting bolts break, the brake caliper may become unfixed and, when the vehicle is braked, the brake rotor could drag the caliper, causing the brake hose to rupture and the vehicle's suspension to be damaged. This could result in the loss of a portion of the vehicle's braking ability, causing the vehicle to become unstable. As a result, the safety of you and your vehicle could be in danger and a crash might occur.

According to our files you are the owner of the vehicle registered under _____ (licence plate number). Records show that this vehicle may be affected.

To ensure that your vehicle is in a safe condition and to eliminate the risk of a vehicle crash that may be caused by this part, we would like to check the bolts used in the part installed during the repair on your vehicle. If your kit contains the affected bolts, we will replace the complete wheel bearing and the bolts that come with it.

We therefore ask you to make an appointment with your local dealer or repair shop to have your vehicle inspected without delay. In order to find a dealer or repair shop near you, please contact us at _____. The inspection and repair of your vehicle should take approximately ____.

The inspection and repair, if necessary, of your vehicle will be performed free of charge to you.

In case you have sold the above mentioned vehicle, we kindly ask you to pass this letter on to the new owner or let us know the name and address of the new owner. For this purpose, we enclose a self-addressed, postage prepaid card for your use.

If you have had your vehicle repaired prior to receipt of this notice, you may be entitled to reimbursement if you incurred any out of pocket cost due to this matter. For further information, please contact us at the number listed above.

If you are a lessor of vehicles which are equipped with the affected wheel bearing kit (Lemforder Part No. 1402301), Federal regulations require that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

If you believe that ZF Trading has failed to provide a free remedy within a reasonable time you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Kind regards,