



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

A DaimlerChrysler Company

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

October 12, 2007

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defect Investigation
Attention: George Person, Chief Recall Management Division NVS 215
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: 49 CFR Part 573.6; Recall of Mercedes-Benz C-Class (204) Rear Outboard Seatbelts

Dear Mr. Person:

Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573.6, 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 October, 2007.

Manufacturer's Campaign Identification Number

TBD

NHTSA Recall Number

07V- 465

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

Sincerely,

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

GB: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: Gary Bowne; Department Manager; Product Compliance, Analysis & Safety Engineering; Engineering Services

Date: October 10, 2007

Re: Recall Campaign – Replace Rear Outboard Seat Belts Model 204, Model Year 2008

On October 1, 2007 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) was notified that Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC will conduct a voluntary Recall Campaign on certain model year 2008 C-Class (204) vehicles with regard to the rear outboard seat belts. This notification will be posted on the NHTSA web site and may generate some customer questions

DaimlerChrysler AG (DCAG), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has decided that the outboard rear seat belt child restraint mechanisms in certain model year 2008 C-Class vehicles fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 208, S7.1.1.5(a)(Occupant Crash Protection/Seat Belt Assembly/Adjustment). Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) therefore has initiated a recall of these vehicles.

Subject vehicles are equipped with rear seat belts designed with a mechanism that locks when used to secure a child restraint in the rear seat. In the event that the outboard rear seatbelts are used to secure a child restraint in these vehicles, the locking mechanism in the outboard seat belts may not perform as required by the applicable federal motor vehicle safety standard in the event of a crash or an emergency braking situation. Failure of the locking mechanism to perform properly in those circumstances could lead to injury. As a result, MBUSA is conducting a preventive recall to replace the rear outboard seatbelts and requests customers not use the rear outboard seat belts to secure a child restraint until the recall repair is performed.

The owner notification letter will inform customers that their vehicles are also equipped with a child restraint anchoring system known as LATCH. When combined with a newer child restraint that has a LATCH compatible attachment mechanism designed to connect with the LATCH system, the restraint can be secured to the rear outboard seats without the use of the rear seat belt. Thus the LATCH system is fully operational in the vehicle and is the best way to secure a LATCH compatible child restraint. Mercedes strongly encourages to always restrain children properly in the rear seat using LATCH-equipped child restraints whenever possible. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has mandated that new motor vehicles and new child restraints be LATCH-equipped because the LATCH systems better protects children in the event of a crash.

This Recall Campaign affects approximately 5,823 vehicles in the U.S. MBUSA will conduct a voluntary recall campaign for the subject C-Class vehicles in order to install new rear outboard seat belts on all potentially affected subject vehicles.

The campaign launch date is estimated to be early or mid, November 2007 based on parts availability. An initial allotment of parts will be sent to each dealer by the launch date.

The owner notification letters will be mailed the week following the campaign launch date.

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 (1800-367-6372).