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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.



**Sprinter Engineering and  
Compliance Support Team**  
A Division of MBUSA, LLC

Date: March 7, 2008

Daniel C. Smith, Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E..  
Washington, D.C. 20590

08V-109  
(3 pages)

**Re: Part 573 Defect Information Report**

Dear Mr. Smith,

This letter is submitted by Sprinter Engineering and Compliance Support Team – A Division of Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) on behalf of our parent company, Daimler AG, pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 573. Specifically, this report advises you of a potential noncompliance in certain model year 2007 and 2008 passenger van Sprinter vehicles equipped with a 144 inch wheelbase and standard roof height.

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

Daimler AG, Stuttgart, Germany

Designated Agent: Wolf-Dieter Kleimeier  
Sprinter Engineering and Compliance  
Support Team  
8501 Palmetto Commerce Pkwy  
Ladson, SC 29456  
Tel: 843-6955041  
Fax: 843-6955031

573.6(c)(2): Identification of Vehicles

<u>Make</u>	<u>Model / Type</u>	<u>Model Year</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates of Manufacture</u>
Sprinter	2500	2007 and 2008	August 25, 2006 through January 14, 2008

The affected vehicle population was identified through an analysis of the production records for vehicles equipped with a 144 inch wheelbase and standard roof height.

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Compliance Support Team  
8501 Palmetto Commerce  
Pkwy Ladson, SC 29456

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

Approximately 727 Sprinter vehicles, marketed under Dodge and Freightliner brands, are potentially affected. These “subject vehicles” are MY 2007 and MY 2008 passenger vans ordered with a 144 inch wheelbase and standard roof height, which in some cases, may not have had certain head impact protection pads installed at the c-pillar.

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

The percentage of vehicles that are projected to actually contain the issue described below is about 40%.

573.6(c)(5): Description of Noncompliance

Daimler AG has determined that some Sprinter vehicles may not have had certain head impact protection pads installed at the c-pillar during the assembly process as designed and certified. These head impact protection pads are required for compliance with FMVSS No. 201U “Occupant Protection in Interior Impact”.

573.6(c)(6): Chronology of principal events:

Daimler AG received information from the plant and the field regarding the absence of the head impact protection pads. It was then determined that a recall campaign would be performed.

573.6(c)(7): Basis for Determination of Noncompliance

During a quality control inspection two vehicles were found without the aforementioned head impact protection pads installed. The following investigation has shown that not all produced vehicles were equipped correctly with the head impact protection pads at the c-pillar.

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

Chrysler, LLC will conduct a voluntary recall campaign for the subject Sprinter vehicles described above. The recall will be conducted in order to inspect, and if found missing, install the appropriate head impact protection pads on all potentially affected vehicles.

There will be no charge to owners of the subject vehicles. Daimler AG is unaware of any injuries or installations for this condition but any owners who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for this condition prior to the recall will be reimbursed.

573.6(c)(8)(ii): Estimated Date on which Remedy Program will begin

Chrysler, LLC will provide the dates when the action will begin, as well as when it will complete sending notifications to owners and dealers as soon as it is determined.

573.6(c)(9): Copies of Communication with Dealers and or Purchasers

A copy will be provided by Chrysler, LLC when available.

73.6(c)(10): Copies of Proposed Owner Notification Letter

A copy will be provided by Chrysler, LLC when available.

573.6(c)(11): Manufacturer 's Campaign Identification Number

Chrysler, LLC will provide the Recall Campaign Number when available.

If you or any of your staff has any questions, please feel free to contact Michael Scott of my staff at 843-695-5057. Customers should call 800-992-1997.

Sincerely

WALTER F. BLOCH



p.p. Wolf-Dieter Kleimeier  
General Manager  
Sprinter Engineering and Compliance  
Support Team



Michael D. Scott  
Safety and Emissions Compliance  
Sprinter Engineering and Compliance  
Support Team  
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