



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC  
A Daimler Company

August 1, 2008

**SENT BY FAX 202-366-7882 AND CERTIFIED U.S. MAIL**

**08V-405  
(4 pages)**

Mr. Daniel C. Smith  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
NVS-200, Room W45-306  
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 our parent company, Daimler AG (DAG), this letter advises you of a voluntary safety related recall for certain Mercedes-Benz vehicles. Specifically, Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) submits this report regarding the acceleration sensor on Active Body Control (ABC) front struts in certain Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

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

Daimler AG, Stuttgart, Germany.

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

573.6(c)(2): Identification of Vehicles

| Make          | Line/Model          | Model Year | Inclusive Dates of Manufacture |
|---------------|---------------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| Mercedes-Benz | S-Class, Model 221  | 2007       | January 2006 – December 2006   |
|               | CL-Class, Model 216 | 2007-2008  | October 2006 – April 2007      |
|               | SL-Class, Model 230 | 2003-2007  | May 2002 – December 2006       |
|               | S-Class, Model 220  | 2002-2006  | April 2002 – February 2005     |
|               | CL-Class, Model 215 | 2001-2006  | Sept. 2000 – Sept. 2005        |

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC  
One Mercedes Drive  
P.O. Box 350  
Montvale, NJ 07645-0350  
Phone (201) 573-0600  
Fax (201) 573-0117  
www.MBUSA.com



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

Approximately 4,564 Mercedes-Benz vehicles are potentially affected in the US.

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 100%.

573.6(c)(5): Description of Defect

Vehicles with Active Body Control (ABC) are equipped with acceleration sensors on the front struts. These sensors measure acceleration around the z-axis of the vehicle and assure an automatic adaptation of the front struts to maintain a relatively level body position.

Due to variations in the suppliers soldering process, the flux melting agent utilized by the supplier resulted in soldering points on the board of the AZ-Sensors which may not be within design tolerances. As a result, in very rare cases signals from affected sensors measuring the acceleration may not be accurately transmitted to the ECU. A variation in the transmitted values between affected and unaffected sensors can result in one front strut adjusting to a value indicating body movement while another strut does not adjust presenting the driver with an uneven front suspension. A warning will be shown in the instrument cluster if this result occurs although the affected strut sensor normally returns to proper functioning in milliseconds.

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

Following receipt of customer complaints regarding uneven driving events or bumpy driving, DAG began an analysis of returned parts. After detailed investigations on the returned parts, the company and its supplier identified the potential for variable signals resulting from incorrect soldering points as the cause of the field complaints. The production process at the supplier has been modified with additional monitoring systems to assure production within specified tolerances and eliminate this potential problem.

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

MBUSA will conduct a voluntary recall campaign for the subject vehicles described above. The recall will be conducted to check and replace all potentially affected AZ-Sensors.

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

MBUSA estimates owner notification will begin in September, 2008.

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

Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign in August, 2008. The voluntary recall campaign is expected to commence in September, 2008. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

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

A copy of the owner notification will be provided when available.

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

The MBUSA Recall Campaign Number will be provided when available.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Gary H. Bowne at (201) - 573-2719.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank J. Diertl', written in a cursive style.

Frank J. Diertl  
General Manager  
Engineering Services

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

TIME : 08/01/2008 12:53  
NAME :  
FAX : 201-476-2866  
TEL :  
SER.# : 000L7N310351

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|--------------|-----------------|
| DATE, TIME   | 08/01 12:52     |
| FAX NO./NAME | 912023667882    |
| DURATION     | 00:00:58        |
| PAGE(S)      | 03              |
| RESULT       | OK              |
| MODE         | STANDARD<br>ECM |



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