



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC  
A Daimler Company

*SENT VIA CERTIFIED U.S. MAIL*

November 24, 2008

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; Recall of Mercedes-Benz S-Class (221) vehicles to check the front struts.**

Dear Mr. Person:

Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573.6(c)(10), this letter contains 1 document that was communicated to our dealers on the above subject and will be submitted in the Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) regular monthly mailing for the month of November, 2008.

Manufacturer's Campaign Identification Number

To be determined.

NHTSA Recall Number

To be determined.

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

Sincerely,

Gary H. Bowne  
Department Manager, Product Compliance, Analysis, Safety and Emissions

GB:sk

Enclosure



Mercedes-Benz - are registered trademarks of Daimler, Stuttgart, Germany

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



Mercedes-Benz

MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC

One Mercedes Plaza, P.O. Box 480, Springfield, NJ 07081-0480

Phone: (201) 271-0100

Fax: (201) 272-0132

MBUSA.com

## newschannel UPDATE

TO: Mercedes-Benz Dealer Principals, General Managers, Sales Managers, Service Managers, Parts Managers

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

DATE: November 21, 2008

RE: **Recall Campaign– Check the Front Struts, Replace if Necessary, Model 221, Model Year 2007**

On November 19, 2008 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) was notified that Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC will conduct a voluntary Recall Campaign on certain Model Year 2007 S-Class (221) vehicles with regard to the front struts. This notification will be posted on the NHTSA web site and may generate some customer questions.

Daimler AG (DAG) has determined that a defect may exist in the radial knuckle of the front struts due to a manufacturing process flaw at the supplier. The process flaw may affect the radial knuckle only after significant mileage accumulation combined with exposure to high continuous stress by driving on rough-roads. If a radial knuckle fails the steer-ability of the vehicle may be affected which may lead to a vehicle crash. During quality testing, DAG detected a small number of radial knuckles of the front struts that may not meet Mercedes-Benz long term durability requirements. Supplier investigation led to the identification of a production range which utilized the affected parts.

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC therefore has initiated a recall of the front struts in all potentially affected vehicles. The production number of the front struts will be checked and if the front struts belong to the affected production range they will be replaced without charge.

**This Recall Campaign will be launched in mid to late December, 2008 and affects approximately 1,515 vehicles in the U.S.**

Owner notification will to be sent approximately one week after recall launch.

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 (1-800-367-6372).

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