



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC
A Daimler Company

SENT VIA CERTIFIED U.S. MAIL



December 19, 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 M-Class (164), GL-Class (X164), and R-Class (251) vehicles to check/replace the Power Steering rack

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 December, 2008.

Manufacturer's Campaign Identification Number
2008120011

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



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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: December 19, 2008

RE: **Recall Campaign 2008120011- Check the Power Steering Rack, Replace if Necessary, Models 164, X164, 251. Model Year 2008**

On December 17, 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 2008 ML (164), GL (X164) and R-Class (251) vehicles with regard to the power steering rack. 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 driving pin used to control the oil pressure of the power steering. This defect resulted from a manufacturing process flaw at the supplier. If a defective driving pin exists in a vehicle and the pin breaks during normal vehicle turning, the normally available hydraulic support function will no longer function and steering wheel operation will be limited which may lead to a vehicle crash.

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC therefore has initiated a recall of the power steering racks in all potentially affected vehicles. A serial number on the power steering racks will be checked and if the power steering rack belongs to the affected serial number range it will be replaced without charge.

This Recall Campaign will be launched in early to mid January, 2009 and affects approximately 578 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).

