



Mercedes-Benz

10V-655
(3 Pages)

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC
A Daimler Company

Date: December 22, 2010

SENT BY E-MAIL (rmd.odi@dot.gov) **AND FEDEX**

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 Information Report

Dear Mr. Smith,

This letter is submitted by 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 2010 Sprinter vehicles, badged as Dodge, Mercedes-Benz or Freightliner.

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

Daimler AG, Stuttgart, Germany

Designated Agent: Michael Scott
Sprinter Engineering and
Compliance Support
8501 Palmetto Commerce Pkwy
Ladson, SC 29456
Tel: (843)695-5057
Fax: (843)695-5031

573.6(c)(2): Identification of Vehicles

Make	Model / Type	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Sprinter	2500 and 3500	2007, 2010	January to May 2007 and May 2010



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www.MBUSA.com

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

Five (5) Sprinter 2500 and 3500 MY 2007 and 2010 vehicles are potentially affected and are sold under the Dodge, Mercedes-Benz and Freightliner brand names. The vehicles were identified during a review of production documentation of all Sprinter vehicles, which have been produced since start of production in January 2006 of the current models.

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

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

573.6(c)(5): Description of Defect

Each A-pillar trim for Sprinter vehicles has an individual number that has to be documented in the vehicle-specific production documentation to confirm that the appropriate A-pillar trim was used in that vehicle. This documentation was not performed properly in a few isolated cases due to an individual workmanship error during the production process. The plant is unable to verify whether the installed A-pillar trim is the correct one required for compliance with FMVSS 201 for the specific vehicle.

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

During a routine quality control inspection in our production plant in April 2010 certain isolated vehicles were found where the production documentation did not show the individual number of the installed A-pillar trim. The identified vehicles were rectified before delivery.

A subsequent check of the production documentation of all Sprinter vehicles produced since start of production in January 2006 was done. It was found that on isolated vehicles the identification of the individually installed A-pillar trim was not traceable by paper and/or electronic documentation.

However, there is no indication in any of the cases, that in fact an incorrect A-pillar trim was installed.

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

MBUSA will conduct a voluntary recall campaign for the subject Sprinter vehicles described above. On the subject vehicles the installed A-pillar trim will be checked and be replaced if necessary.

There will be no charge to owners of the subject vehicles. Owners who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall prior to the recall will be reimbursed.

MBUSA estimates owner notification will begin in early February 2011.

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

Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign in early February 2011. The voluntary recall campaign is expected to commence in early February 2011. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

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

A copy will be provided when available.

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

The MBUSA Recall Campaign Number will be provided when available.

If you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (843)6955057.

Sincerely



Michael D. Scott
S&E Compliance Manager
Sprinter Engineering and
Compliance Support



Walther Bloch
Engineering Support Manager
Sprinter Engineering and
Compliance Support