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By Recall Management Division at 9:39 am, Mar 31, 2011



**Sprinter Engineering and  
Compliance Support**

Date: March 29, 2011

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

11V-210  
(4 Pages)

Mr. Daniel C. Smith  
Senior Associate Administrator, Vehicle Safety  
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,

Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573, Mercedes-Benz USA LLC's Sprinter Engineering and Compliance Support Division, on behalf of our parent company, Daimler AG (collectively DAG), this letter advises you of a safety recall campaign to be conducted on Model Year 2008 - 2011 Sprinter vehicles. MY 2008 and 2009 Sprinter vehicles included in this recall are badged as Dodge. MY 2008 through 2011 Sprinter vehicles included in this recall are badged as Freightliner. MY 2010 and 2011 Sprinter vehicles included in this recall are badged as Mercedes-Benz. DAG has determined that the affected vehicles do not comply with FMVSS 208 § 7.1.1.5 and FMVSS 209 § 4.4.

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

Daimler AG, Stuttgart, Germany

Designated Agent: Michael Scott  
MBUSA 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

<u>Make</u>	<u>Model / Type</u>	<u>Model Year</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates of Manufacture</u>
Sprinter	2500 and 3500	2008 - 2011	October 2007 through February 2011



is a registered trademark of Daimler, Stuttgart, Germany.

Sprinter Engineering and  
Compliance Support  
8501 Palmetto Commerce Pkwy  
Ladson, SC 29456  
Phone (843) 695-5000  
Fax (843) 695-5031  
[www.mbsprinterusa.com](http://www.mbsprinterusa.com)

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

3,437 Sprinter 2500 and 3500 MY 2008- 2011 vehicles are affected and are sold under either the Dodge, Mercedes-Benz or Freightliner brand names. The vehicles were identified through a review of production documentation for Sprinter vehicles produced starting in January 2006.

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

All of the identified vehicles are projected to contain the issue described below.

573.6(c)(5): Description of Noncompliance

Sprinter passenger vans for the US market may be equipped with an optional three-seat bench in the passenger compartment. The seat benches in the second seating row in the affected vehicles may have been equipped with safety belts that were certified to ECE standards but were not certified to FMVSS 208 and 209. As a result, the seat belt assembly is not lockable as required by FMVSS 208 § 7.1.1.5. In addition, the load limiters were mounted in accordance with ECE standards, and accordingly the assembly loop does not withstand the forces required by FMVSS 209 § 4.4.

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

In the course of an internal routine quality inspection in Daimler AG's production plant in Duesseldorf in February 2011, DAG detected one vehicle with different safety belts installed between the first and the second three-seat bench in the passenger compartment. An internal investigation found that, as a result of an error in the specifications provided to the supplier, the supplier had installed safety belts certified to ECE standards rather than Federal Motor Vehicles Safety Standards 208 and 209. DAG identified the affected vehicles and a decision was made to conduct a safety recall.

573.6(c)(8): Remedy Program

MBUSA will conduct a voluntary recall campaign for the subject Sprinter vehicles described above. On the subject vehicles the safety belts used with the installed three-seater benches will be checked and replaced if necessary.

There will be no charge to the 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 May 2011.

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

Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign in May 2011. The voluntary recall campaign is expected to commence in May 2011. A copy of all communications will be provided when available. A copy of the proposed Owner Notification letter will be provided when available.

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

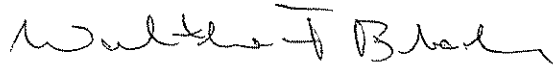
The MBUSA Recall Campaign Number will be provided when available.

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  
DM Sprinter Engineering Support  
Sprinter Engineering and  
Compliance Support

From: (843) 695-5064  
Jochen Hornikel  
MBUSA  
8501 Palmetto Commerce Parkway  
Ladson, SC 29456

Origin ID: CHSA



Ship Date: 29MAR11  
ActWgt: 1.0 LB  
CAD: 1621844/INET3130

Delivery Address Bar Code



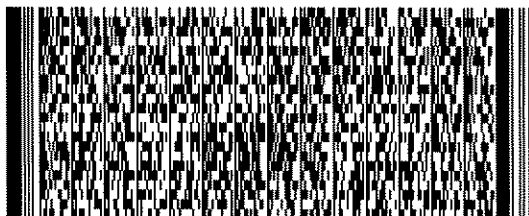
SHIP TO: (843) 695-5057  
**Daniel C. Smith**  
**NHTSA - Administrator**  
**1200 NEW JERSEY AVE SE**  
**S.E.**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 20590**

BILL SENDER

Ref #  
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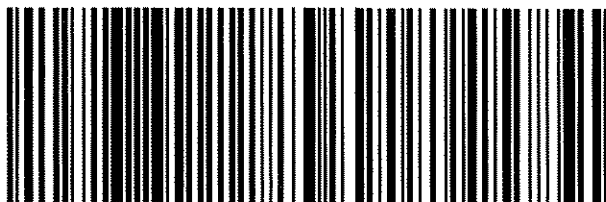
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