



Date: June 13, 2011

**Sprinter Engineering and
Compliance Support****SENT BY E-MAIL** (rmd.odi@dot.gov) **AND FEDEX**

Mr. Claude Harris
 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. Harris,

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 ("DAG"), this letter advises you of a safety recall campaign on certain model year 2011 Sprinter vehicles, badged as 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

<u>Make</u>	<u>Model / Type</u>	<u>Model Year</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates of Manufacture</u>
Sprinter	3500	2011	March and April 2011



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

47 Sprinter 3500 MY 2011 vehicles are potentially affected by this issue in the US. The vehicles in question are being sold both under the Mercedes-Benz and Freightliner brand names. The vehicles were identified by reviewing the production documentation for Sprinter vehicles.

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

The percentage of potentially affected vehicles that could contain the issue described below may reach up to 56% of the 47 vehicles identified above.

573.6(c)(5): Description of Defect

On the affected Sprinter vehicles, the rear springs may not meet the standards for material requirements due to the fact that the supplier rolled the spring eye out of tolerance on a limited number of parts in its production. In order to correct the diameter of the spring eye, the supplier pressed these springs under cold conditions. This may have caused hydrogen embrittlement within the material, which could potentially lead to a crack of the spring eye over time. This could lead to an increased risk of a crash.

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 identification mark of the rear spring will be checked and the rear springs will be replaced where 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 September 2011.

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

Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign in June 2011. The voluntary recall campaign is expected to commence in September 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

p.p.



Walther Bloch
DM Sprinter Engineering Support
Sprinter Engineering and
Compliance Support