



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 12, 2013

Mr. Julian Soell
General Manager, Engineering services
Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.
One Mercedes Drive, P.O. Box 350
Montvale, NJ 07645-0350

NVS-215KS
13V-236

Subject: Occupant Classification System

Dear Mr. Soell:

This letter serves to acknowledge Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

MERCEDES BENZ/SLK250/2013
MERCEDES BENZ/SLK350/2013

Mfr's Report Date: June 3, 2013

NHTSA Campaign Number: 13V-236

Components:

AIR BAGS
ELECTRICAL SYSTEM: SOFTWARE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 71

Problem Description:

Mercedes-Benz (Mercedes) is recalling certain model year 2013 SLK250 and SLK350 vehicles manufactured October 9, 2012, through November 20, 2012. These vehicles are equipped with an occupant classification system (OCS) that may not correctly differentiate between a child seat or a very light person being in the front passenger seat.

Consequence:

If the OCS incorrectly classifies a very light person as being a child seat, in the event of a crash necessitating airbag deployment, the system would deactivate the passenger airbag, increasing the risk of injury.

Remedy:

Mercedes will notify owners, and dealers will replace the passenger side seat cushion including the OCS. The recall is expected to begin during June 2013. Owners may contact Mercedes at 1-201-573-0600.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

We have received Mercedes' proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations
Enforcement