



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 6, 2016

Mr. R. Thomas Brunner
Dept Manager VCA
Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC.
1 Mercedes Drive
Montvale, NJ 07645

NEF-150TB
16V-831

Subject: Underbody Panel may Melt from Catalyst Heat

Dear Mr. Brunner:

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/E400/2017
MERCEDES BENZ/E550/2017

Mfr's Report Date: November 14, 2016

NHTSA Campaign Number: 16V-831

Components:

STRUCTURE: FRAME AND MEMBERS:UNDERBODY SHIELDS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 799

Problem Description:

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) is recalling certain model year 2017 E400 4Matic Coupe, E400 Convertible, E550 Coupe and E550 Convertible vehicles manufactured June 7, 2016, to September 8, 2016. On the affected vehicles, there may be insufficient clearance between the left catalytic converter and the composite underbody panel.

Consequence:

The insufficient clearance may cause the panel to melt, increasing the risk of a fire.

Remedy:

MBUSA will notify owners, and dealers will inspect and replace the underbody panel, as necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in December 2016. Owners may contact Mercedes customer service at 1-800-367-6372.

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 MBUSA's 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).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

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 Tariq Bond who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-5472, or by email at tariq.bond@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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