



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

January 18, 2017

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

NEF-150TB  
17V-017

**Subject:** Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

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/C250/2012  
MERCEDES BENZ/C300/2008-2009, 2012  
MERCEDES BENZ/C350/2008-2009, 2012  
MERCEDES BENZ/C63/2009, 2012  
MERCEDES BENZ/E350/2012  
MERCEDES BENZ/E550/2012  
MERCEDES BENZ/GLK350/2012  
MERCEDES BENZ/SLS/2012

**Mfr's Report Date:** January 10, 2017

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 17V-017

**Components:**

AIR BAGS:PASSENGER SIDE FRONTAL

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 103,406

**Problem Description:**

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) is recalling certain 2012 C300 4Matic, C250, C250 Coupe, C350, C350 Coupe 4Matic, C350 Coupe, C63 AMG, C63 AMG Coupe, E350 Coupe 4Matic, E350 Cabrio, E350 Coupe, E550 Cabrio, E550 Coupe, GLK350 4Matic, GLK350, SLS AMG Cabrio, and SLS AMG Coupe vehicles originally sold, or ever registered, in Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan), and the U.S. Virgin Islands, or "Zone A."

Additionally, unless included in "Zone A" above MBUSA is recalling certain 2009 C300 4Matic, C300, C350 and C63 AMG vehicles originally sold, or ever registered, in Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia, or "Zone B."

Additionally, unless included in "Zone A" or "Zone B" above MBUSA is recalling certain 2008 C300 4Matic, C300, and C350

vehicles originally sold, or ever registered, in Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

These vehicles are equipped with certain air bag inflators assembled as part of the passenger frontal air bag modules, and used as original equipment or replacement equipment. In the event of a crash necessitating deployment of the front air bags, these inflators may rupture due to propellant degradation occurring after long-term exposure to absolute humidity and temperature cycling.

**Consequence:**

An inflator rupture may result in metal fragments striking the vehicle occupants resulting in serious injury or death.

**Remedy:**

MBUSA will notify owners, and dealers will replace the front passenger air bag modules, free of charge. Parts are not currently available. Owners will be sent an interim notification starting in February 2017. A second notice will be mailed when remedy parts are available. Owners may contact MBUSA customer service at 1-877-496-3691

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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 Tariq Bond who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-5472, or by email at [tariq.bond@dot.gov](mailto:tariq.bond@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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