

Throttle lift-off clunking noises at drive shafts of front axle

Topic number	LI33.30-P-056665
Version	5
Function group	33.30 Final drive, differential, drive shaft
Date	10-12-2020
Validity	Models: All Mercedes-Benz cars with front-wheel drive and 4x4 vehicles
Reason for change	Validity for new model series updated.
Reason for block	

Complaint:

Single throttle lift-off clunking noise from the side shaft when moving off (audible at the outboard end). The clunk is heard once when changing from forward to reverse (and vice versa).

Note: Sound file in attachment.

Attachments	
File	Description
Beanstandung Lastwechselknacken.mp3	Sound recording of complaint

Cause:

If the complaint is eliminated by experimentally loosening the outboard collar nut (by 1 turn), the problem is due to micromovement in the connection between the wheel bearing inner race and the joint housing of the side shaft.

Note: The collar nut must always be replaced after being loosened and must be tightened to the specified torque.

Remedy:

Coat contact surface of side shaft with wheel bearing with Molykote paint. To do this, proceed as follows:

1. Remove outboard side shafts (extract outer joint gearing from wheel hub)
2. Clean contact surface A (see image file in attachment "Outer joint housing before") before coating with Molykote paint (free of dust and grease)
3. Coat contact surface A (see image file in attachment "Outer joint housing after") with Molykote and leave to dry for one hour in removed condition
4. Reinstall side shafts

Note: Before using low friction paint (Molykote) stir or shake it thoroughly.

Attachments	
File	Description
Gelenkgehäuse aussen vor.jpg	Before coating with Molykote paint
Gelenkgehäuse aussen nach.jpg	After coating with Molykote paint

Symptoms

Power transmission / Noises / Throttle lift-off clunking noise
Power transmission / Drive shaft / Axle shaft / Noises / Knocking/banging

XENTRY TIPS

Parts						
Part number	ES1	ES2	Designation	Quantity	Note	EPC
A 000 989 01 52	10		Low-friction paint (Molykote)	1		X

Operation numbers/damage codes				
Op. no.	Operation text	Time	Damage code	Note
33-0000	REMOVE/INSTALL PARTS OF LEFT FRONT AXLE SHAFT.		33H10 34	Left side shaft
33-0000	REMOVE/INSTALL PARTS OF RIGHT FRONT AXLE SHAFT.		33W10 34	Right side shaft
33-0000	REMOVE/INSTALL PARTS OF FRONT AXLE SHAFTS (BOTH)			Left and right side shafts

Validity		
Vehicle	Engine	Transmission
<217>	*	*
A (168)	*	*
A (169)	*	*
A (176)	*	*
A (177)	*	*
B (242, 246)	*	*
B (245)	*	*
B (247)	*	*
C (203)	*	*
C (204)	*	*
C (205)	*	*
CL (216)	*	*
CLA (117)	*	*
CLA (118)	*	*
CLS (218)	*	*
CLS (219)	*	*
CLS (257)	*	*
E (207)	*	*
E (211)	*	*
E (212)	*	*
E (213)	*	*
E (238)	*	*
EQC (293)	*	*
GL (164)	*	*

XENTRY TIPS

GL/GLS (166)	*	*
GLA (156)	*	*
GLC (253)	*	*
GLE (167)	*	*
GLE (292)	*	*
GLK (204)	*	*
M (163)	*	*
M (164)	*	*
M/GLE (166)	*	*
R (251)	*	*
S (220)	*	*
S (221)	*	*
S (222)	*	*
S (223)	*	*