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Mercedes-Benz

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(3 pages)

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC
A Daimler Company

November 30, 2012

SENT BY E-MAIL (rmd.odi@dot.gov) AND CERTIFIED U.S. MAIL

Ms. Nancy Lewis
Associate Administrator, Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
NVS-200, Room W45-306
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Part 573 Defect Information Report

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Pursuant to the requirements of 49 C.F.R. Part 573, and on behalf of our parent company, Daimler AG (DAG), this letter advises you of a voluntary safety recall for certain Mercedes-Benz vehicles. Specifically, Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) submits this report regarding the filter flange in certain Model Year 2011/2012 Mercedes-Benz S-, C-, E-, GLK-, CL- and E-Class Coupé vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Manufacturer's Name

Daimler AG, Stuttgart, Germany.

Designated Agent: Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC
Montvale, NJ 07645

573.6(c)(2): Identification of Vehicles

Make	Line/Model	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Mercedes-Benz	S-Class (S400, S550, S550 4Matic, S63 AMG) C-Class (C300, C300 4Matic) E-Class, E-Coupé (E350) GLK-Class (GLK350, GLK350 4Matic) CL-Class (CL550 4Matic, CL63 AMG)	2011 and 2012	April 18, 2011 - July 12, 2011

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC
One Mercedes Drive
P.O. Box 350
Montvale, NJ 07645-0350
Phone (201) 573-0600
Fax (201) 573-0117
www.MBUSA.com



573.6(c)(2)(iv): Manufacturer's Name of Affected Component and Country of Origin

Affected Component – fuel filter flange
Magna Steyr Fuel Systems GmbH
Industriestr. 23
41516 Grevenbroich
Germany

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

Approximately 5,800 Mercedes-Benz S-, C-, E-, E-Coupé, GLK-, and CL-Class vehicles are potentially affected in the US.

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

The percentage of vehicles that are projected to actually contain the issues described below is unknown.

573.6(c)(5): Description of Defect

DAG has determined that due to issues during the injection molding process of a sub-supplier, the structure of affected fuel filter flanges might contain an irregularity. During a specific period of sub-supplier production there were issues with the injection molding process that impaired the flow of material in the mold, which could result in reduced thickness or strength of the flange in certain areas. The flange is situated on top of the fuel filter and is used to connect the fuel filter to the fuel tank. In most cases, fuel cannot leak through this structural irregularity in the flange. However, in some cases the operating pressure (7 bar) along with high operating temperatures could over time lead to the development of a crack in the flange, which may result in fuel leakage and/or loss of fuel system pressure and flow.

573.6(c)(6): Chronology of Principal Events

In August 2012, DAG became aware through its worldwide product observation that warranty claims for fuel filters in certain models had recently increased. Product analysis determined that warranty returned parts contained the flange irregularities described above. Analysis of production records showed that all warranty claims in the U.S. market related to vehicles that contained fuel flanges built during the period where the sub-supplier's injection molding process issues could result in these flange molding irregularities. Based on this information DAG decided in November 2012 that a potential defect exists in the affected vehicles.

573.6(c)(8)(i): Remedy Program

MBUSA will conduct a voluntary recall campaign for the subject vehicles described above. The voluntary recall campaign will be conducted to replace the fuel filter as a precautionary measure on all potentially affected vehicles produced between April 18, 2011 and July 12, 2011.

573.6(c)(8)(ii): Estimated Date of Owner Notification

MBUSA estimates owner notification will begin in January 2013.

573.6(c)(10): Copies of Communications with Dealers or Purchasers

Dealers will be notified of the pending voluntary recall campaign in January 2013. The voluntary recall campaign is expected to commence in January 2013. A copy of all communications will be provided when available.

573.6(c)(11): Copies of Proposed Owner Notification Letter

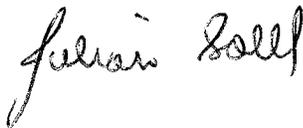
A copy of the owner notification will be provided when available.

573.6(c)(12): Manufacturer's Campaign Identification Number

The MBUSA Recall Campaign Number will be provided when available.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. R. Thomas Brunner at brunnert@mbusa.com.

Sincerely,



Julian Soell
General Manager,
Engineering Services



R. Thomas Brunner
Department Manager,
Vehicle Compliance and Analysis