



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC
A Daimler Company

SENT VIA CERTIFIED U.S. MAIL

December 20, 2013

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defect Investigation
Attention: Jennifer Timian, Chief Recall Management Division NVS 215
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: 49 CFR Part 573; Recall of Mercedes-Benz Front Seat Belt Anchor Fittings

Dear Ms. Timian:

Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573.6(10), this letter contains 2 documents (Repair Instructions, Customer letter) that were communicated to our dealers on the above subject and will be submitted in the Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) regular monthly mailing for the month of December, 2013.

Manufacturer's Campaign Identification Number
2013110008

NHTSA Recall Number
13V-576

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at brunnert@mbusa.com.

Sincerely,

R-Thomas Brunner
Department Manager,
Vehicle Compliance and Analysis

Stephen Kraitz
Compliance Engineer
Vehicle Compliance and Analysis

Enclosure

Campaign No. 2013110008, December 2013

Revision	Date	Purpose
A	12/18/13	Inclusion of Customer Letter
-	11/22/13	Initial release

TO: ALL MERCEDES-BENZ CENTERS

SUBJECT: **Model Year 2014, Model 222 (S-Class)
Check Left and Right Front Seat Belt Anchor Fitting**

Daimler AG (DAG), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has determined that on a limited number of S-Class vehicles (222 platform) produced between April 11, 2013 - October 14, 2013, the seat belt anchor fittings of the front seats might not be mounted correctly on the potentially affected individual vehicles. In the affected vehicles there is a possibility that the linkage between the safety belt and the cable eyelet on the front seat might not be locked sufficiently. In these affected vehicles, the connection at the seat belt anchor fitting could release under heavy loading. This may affect the restraint performance of the seat belt and result in an increased risk of injury in the event of a crash. MBUSA therefore has initiated a voluntary recall of all potentially affected vehicles described above. The recall will be conducted to check that the left and right front passenger seat belts are properly locked in the subject vehicles.

Attached is a sample copy of a letter which owners of the affected vehicles will receive.

Prior to performing this Recall Campaign:

- Please check VMI to determine if the vehicle is involved in the Campaign and if it has been previously repaired.
- Please review the entire Recall Campaign bulletin and follow the repair procedure exactly as described.

Please note that Recall Campaigns **do not expire** and may also be performed on a vehicle with a vehicle status indicator.

Approximately 290 vehicles are involved.

Order No. P-RC-2013110008

This bulletin has been created and maintained in accordance with MBUSA-SLP S423QH001, Document and Data Control, and MBUSA-SLP S424HH001, Control of Quality Records.

Procedure

i Note:

The checking of the seat belt anchor fittings is to be performed on both the left and right front seat belt anchor fittings.

1. Slide the boot (3, Figure 1) with cover (2) on the seat belt anchor fitting outer shell (1) downwards into the outer shell (1) by approximately 5 mm on both sides and hold the cover (Figure 2).

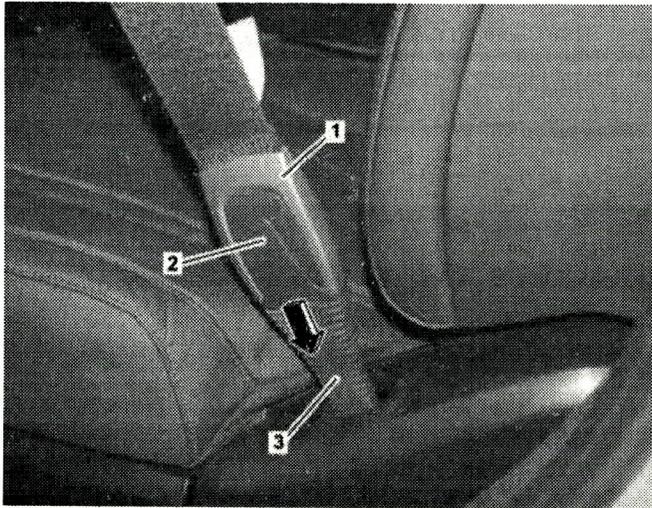


Figure 1

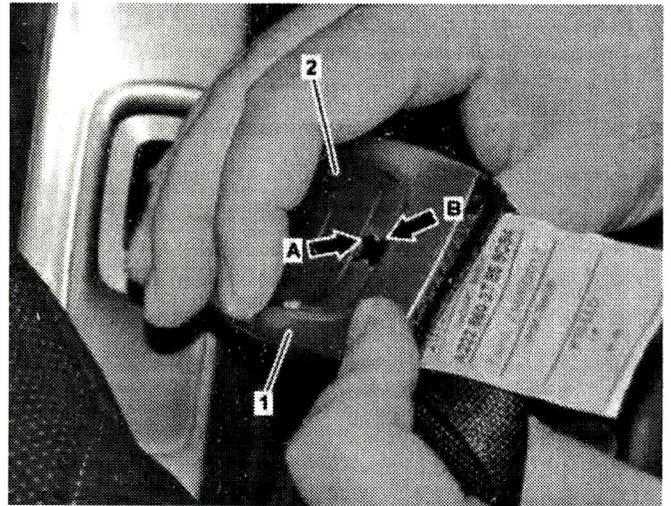


Figure 2

2. Slightly lift the cover guide (arrow A, Figure 2) out from the outer shell support/mount (arrow B) on both sides (Figure 2) then push cover (2) down far enough to expose the locking mechanism (4, Figure 3).

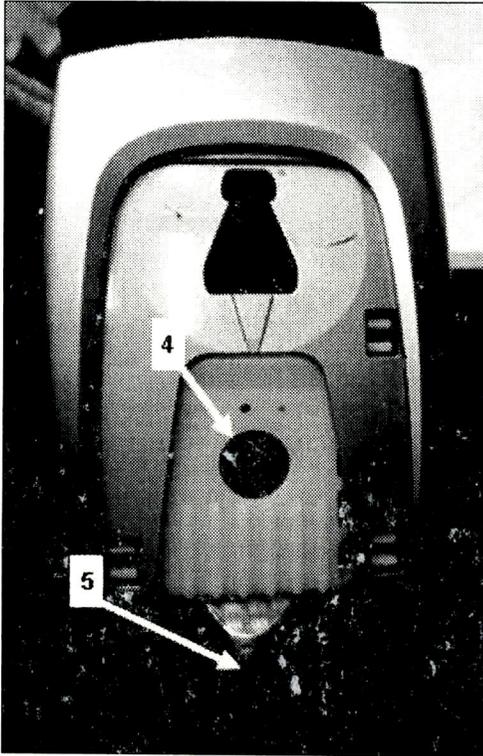


Figure 3

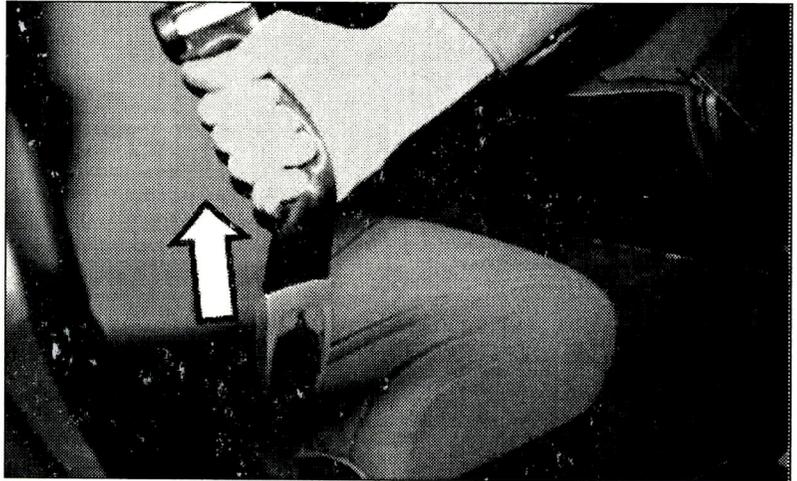


Figure 4

3.  Visually inspect the locking mechanism (4, Figure 3). The locking mechanism (4) must be as shown in Figure 3 – vertical to the anchor cable (5).
4.  Check that the locking mechanism (4, Figure 3) is correctly seated/locked by pulling sharply upwards on the belt strap (Figure 4): The connection for the seat belt anchor fitting (1, Figure 1) must **not** loosen when doing so.

**WARNING!**

Seat belt anchor fitting may release suddenly when pulled out of seat belt anchor.

**Note:**

Only seat belt anchor fittings (1, Figure 1), for which the pull test **AND** the visual inspection (locking mechanism is vertical, Figure 3) are successful, are OK:

- If the seat belt anchor fitting pull test and locking mechanism visual inspection are **BOTH** OK: Proceed to step 6.
- If the seat belt anchor fitting pull test and/or locking mechanism visual inspection are **NOT** OK: Proceed to step 5.

5. Lock seat belt anchor fitting (1, Figure 1) into anchor cable (5, Figure 3), refer to WIS: AR91.40-P-1030-02LF steps: 3-10.. This WIS document is attached to after the last page of this campaign.

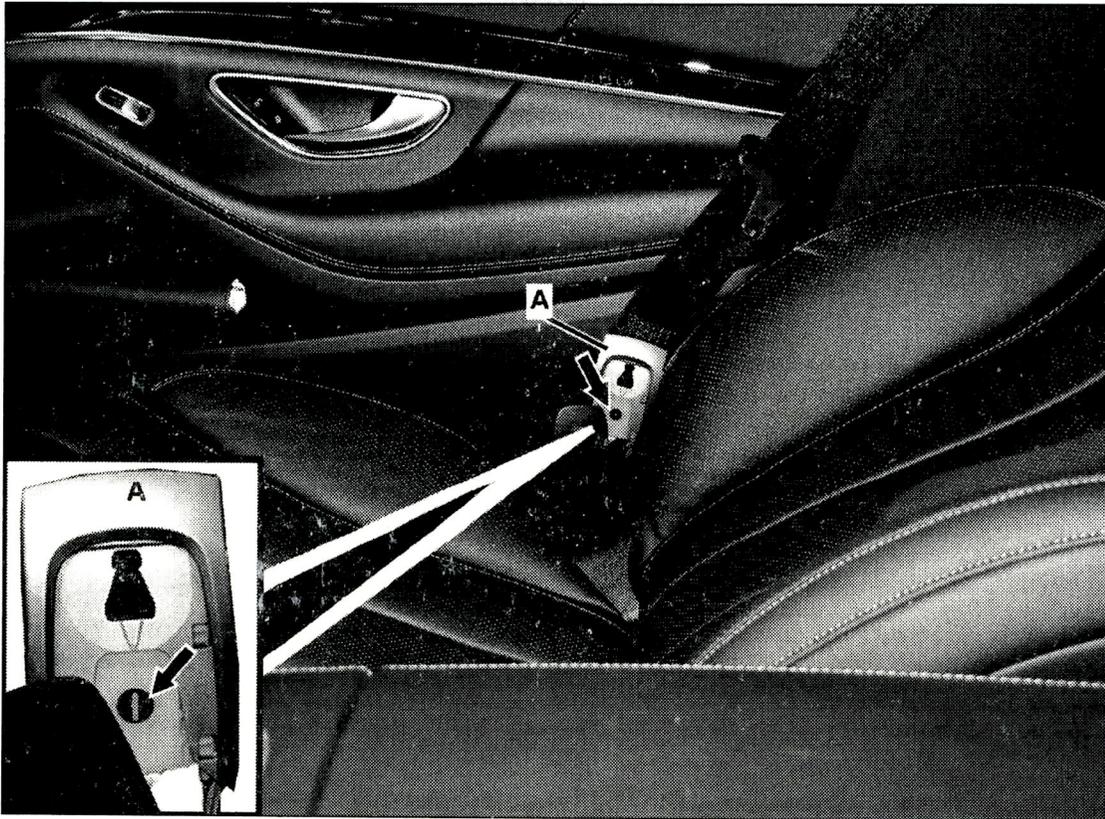


Figure 5

 **Note**

- Be sure to install seat belt anchor fitting (A, Figure 5) with locking mechanism (arrow) **facing inboard** (towards **inside** of vehicle's cabin)
- Ensure seat belt is routed correctly and is not twisted.
- Ensure that locking mechanism (A) is now in the locked/vertical position (arrow).

6. Reassemble in reverse order.

 **Note:**

- Ensure the seat belt is routed correctly and not twisted.
- Ensure seat belt anchor fitting cover (2, Figure 1) is properly reinstalled, refer to WIS: AR91.40-P-1030-02LF steps: 9 and 10.

MB Select

As communicated in the NetStar NewsChannel Update pertaining to this Recall Campaign, we encourage your dealership to proactively reach out to the affected customers and offer to have the Recall performed at the customer's location (versus having to bring the vehicle into the dealership). Should the customer choose to have the Recall performed at a location other than your dealership, your dealership can claim up to one hour additional labor time utilizing the MB Select damage code. Details on how to properly claim for up to the additional hour are noted below.

- If claiming for the allowable additional hour of labor time as per above, please add an additional line on the same RO that the recall campaign was performed. (1 hour is the maximum additional labor time that can be claimed)
- Use the MB Select MY 2014 S-Class damage code 21890
- Please add Recall Campaign 2013110008 in the dealer text of the additional labor line/claim

Note: Please note that claiming the additional hour of labor time to have the customer's Recall performed outside of your dealership does not preclude the dealership to offering another random act of kindness/claim under the MB Select platform.



Note:

- Please be aware that only the part number(s) referenced in the Campaign Bulletin is approved for use to repair the vehicle. Repairs performed using any other part(s) will not have been performed in accordance with the campaign. Accordingly, warranty claims submitted with reference to an improper part number(s) will be denied.
- The following allowable labor operation should be used when submitting a warranty claim for this repair:

Warranty Information

Repair 1

Operation: Check the belt end fitting on the driver and passenger side (02-8360).

Damage Code	Operation Number	Labor Time (hrs.)
91 920 38 8	02-8360	0.1

Repair 2

Operation: Check the belt end fitting on the driver and passenger side (02-8360).
Correct the belt end fitting (02-8364).

Damage Code	Operation Number	Labor Time (hrs.)
91 920 38 8	02-8360	0.1
	02-8364 *	0.1

* This operation number can be claimed up to 2 times.



Note

Operation Number labor times are subject to change.

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL 2013110009
This notice applies to your vehicle, <insert VIN here>
Front Passenger Seat Occupant Classification System
NHTSA Recall # 13V-542

December, 2013

2013110009
WDBAH33Q2CA123456
John Public
125 Maple Avenue
Montvale, NJ 07645-0301

Dear Mercedes-Benz Owner,

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Daimler AG (DAG), the manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain Model Year 2013 SL-Class vehicles with regard to the front seat occupant classification system. Our records indicate that your vehicle is included in the affected population of vehicles.

WE SENT YOU THIS NOTICE BECAUSE WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR SAFETY.

The potentially affected Mercedes-Benz SL-Class vehicles are equipped with an Occupant Classification System (OCS). The OCS detects whether a child seat is installed, or a person is sitting on the passenger seat. When the OCS detects either a child seat or that the front passenger seat is not occupied, the front passenger airbag is automatically deactivated. On a limited number of SL-Class vehicles the passenger seat OCS may fail to properly detect an occupant on the front passenger seat and it could erroneously deactivate the front passenger side airbag. This may result in an increased risk of injury in the event of a crash. An authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will replace the front passenger seat cushion in your vehicle to correct this condition.

This service will be provided free of charge. We are dedicated to always delivering the Best or Nothing – and respect for your time is a top priority. While the minimum repair time is approximately 2 hours, your dealer can provide you with a better estimate of the overall time for this service visit. As a matter of normal service process, an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer will also check for other repair measures which might be applicable to your vehicle and this may increase the required working time.

For additional information and to schedule an appointment please contact **MERCEDES-BENZ OF ANYTOWN, 201-555-1234** or another authorized dealer, at your earliest convenience. To locate additional authorized dealers see www.MBUSA.com/dealerlocator. **Please mention you are scheduling an appointment to replace your front passenger seat cushion under Recall Campaign #2013110009.** You may be asked for your 17-digit Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) which, for your convenience, is located above your name at the top of this letter.

In the event that you are no longer the vehicle owner, or have had a change of address, please complete the reverse side and return the updated information in the enclosed envelope. If this is a leased vehicle and the lessor and registered owner receive this notice, please forward this information by first class mail to the lessee within 10 days to comply with federal regulations.

On behalf of Mercedes-Benz USA, (MBUSA) I wanted to take a moment to thank you for choosing Mercedes-Benz. We hope that you're enjoying your 2013 SL-Class. Here at MBUSA, we are committed to delivering an exceptional ownership experience. Should you have any questions or encounter any difficulty regarding this Recall Campaign please contact an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer. If for any reason a dealer is unable to remedy your situation, we are always happy to hear from you. Please contact us at 1-(800) FOR-MERCEDES (1-800-367-6372).

If an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer or MBUSA fails or is unable to perform this service without charge within 60 days, pursuant to law 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20590 or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We apologize for any inconvenience this situation may cause you.

Sincerely,

IMPORTANT

IF FOR ANY REASON YOU DO NOT NOW OWN THIS VEHICLE OR HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS, PLEASE COMPLETE THE SECTION BELOW, PLACE IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE, AND DROP IN ANY MAIL BOX. IF POSSIBLE, PROVIDE THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PRESENT OWNER SO THAT WE MAY CONTACT THEM.

SCRAPPED

STOLEN

OTHER _____

SOLD _____ **I HAVE SOLD THE VEHICLE TO:**

MY NEW ADDRESS IS:

NAME _____

STREET _____

APT. _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION