



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

February 12, 2016

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

NVS-215SM
16V-081

Subject: Driver's 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:

CHRYSLER/CROSSFIRE/2006-2007
MERCEDES BENZ/C230/2005-2007
MERCEDES BENZ/C300/2008-2011
MERCEDES BENZ/C320/2005
MERCEDES BENZ/C350/2006-2011
MERCEDES BENZ/C63/2009-2011
MERCEDES BENZ/E350/2010-2011
MERCEDES BENZ/E550/2010-2011
MERCEDES BENZ/E63/2010-2011
MERCEDES BENZ/GL320/2009-2010
MERCEDES BENZ/GL350/2011-2012
MERCEDES BENZ/GL450/2009-2012
MERCEDES BENZ/GL550/2009-2012
MERCEDES BENZ/GLK350/2010-2012
MERCEDES BENZ/ML320/2009-2010
MERCEDES BENZ/ML350/2009-2011
MERCEDES BENZ/ML450/2010-2011
MERCEDES BENZ/ML550/2009-2011
MERCEDES BENZ/ML63/2009-2011
MERCEDES BENZ/R320/2009-2010
MERCEDES BENZ/R350/2009-2012
MERCEDES BENZ/SLK280/2007-2008
MERCEDES BENZ/SLK350/2007-2008
MERCEDES BENZ/SLK55/2007-2008
MERCEDES BENZ/SLS/2011-2014

Mfr's Report Date: February 9, 2016

NHTSA Campaign Number: 16V-081

Components:

AIR BAGS:FRONTAL:DRIVER SIDE INFLATOR MODULE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 711,266

Problem Description:

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC. (MBUSA) is recalling certain model year 2009-2010 ML320 BlueTec 4Matic, GL320 BlueTec 4Matic and R320 CDI 4Matic, 2011 E350 Cabriolet and E550 Cabriolet, 2009-2011 ML350, ML350 4Matic, ML550 4Matic, ML63 AMG, and C63 AMG, 2010-2011 ML450 4Matic Hybrid, E350 Coupe, E350 4Matic, E550 Coupe, E550 4Matic, and E63 AMG, 2011-2012 GL350 BlueTec 4Matic and R350 BlueTec 4Matic, 2009-2012 GL450 4Matic, GL550 4Matic and R350 4Matic, 2007-2008 SLK280, SLK350, and SLK55 AMG, 2011-2014 SLS AMG Coupe, 2012 SLS AMG Cabriolet, 2013-2014 SLS AMG GT and SLS AMG GT Cabriolet, 2005 C230 Kompressor and C320, 2006-2007 C230, 2006-2011 C350, 2008-2011 C300 and C300 4Matic, 2010-2012 GLK350 and GLK350 4Matic and 2006-2007 Chrysler Crossfire vehicles. Upon deployment of the driver's frontal air bag, excessive internal pressure may cause the inflator to rupture.

Consequence:

In the event of a crash necessitating deployment of the driver's frontal air bag, the inflator could rupture with metal fragments striking the driver or other occupants resulting in serious injury or death.

Remedy:

MBUSA will notify owners, and Fiat Chrysler will notify the affected Chrysler owners. Dealers for the respective brands will replace the driver's frontal air bag module, free of charge. A notification schedule has not yet been provided. Mercedes-Benz owners may contact MBUSA customer service at 1-800-367-6372 and Chrysler owners may contact Fiat Chrysler customer service at 1-800-853-1403.

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.

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).

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that it is required that owners be notified of a safety defect in their vehicles within 60 days of a manufacturer's notification to NHTSA of a safety defect in those vehicles.

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 Sarah Mcshane who may be reached by phone at 202-366-7401, or by email at sarah.mcshane@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

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