



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

December 30, 2016

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

NEF-150TB  
16V-899

**Subject:** Loss of Electric Power Steering Assist

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/E350/2014-2016  
MERCEDES BENZ/E400/2015-2016  
MERCEDES BENZ/S550/2014-2015  
MERCEDES BENZ/S600/2016  
MERCEDES BENZ/SL550/2013-2015  
MERCEDES BENZ/SL63/2013-2014

**Mfr's Report Date:** December 12, 2016

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 16V-899

**Components:**

STEERING:ELECTRIC POWER ASSIST SYSTEM

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 70

**Problem Description:**

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC. (MBUSA) is recalling certain model year 2013-2015 SL550, 2013-2014 SL63 AMG, 2014-2016 E350, 2014 E350 Cabriolet, E350 Coupe, 2014-2015 S550, 2015 E350 Bluetec, 2015-2016 E400, 2016 E550 Coupe, and Maybach S600 vehicles manufactured August 23, 2012, to August 14, 2015. The affected vehicles use an electric power steering system that may have improperly soldered contacts inside the control unit, potentially resulting in the power steering system deactivating while driving.

**Consequence:**

If the control unit pins lose connection, there would be a loss of electric power steering assist, increasing the risk of a crash. The increase in pin contact resistance can also increase the risk of a fire.

**Remedy:**

MBUSA will notify owners, and dealers will replace the electric power steering control unit, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin February 2017. Owners may contact MBUSA customer service at 1-800-367-6372.

**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).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

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