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# update

TO: Mercedes-Benz Dealer Principals, General Managers, Sales Managers, Service Managers, Parts Managers

FROM: Thomas Brunner; Department Manager; Vehicle Compliance and Analysis; Engineering Services

RE: : Recall – **Replace Diesel Fuel Filter, Models 164, 164.8, 212, 251 Model Year 2011 and Model 221 Model Year 2012**

DATE: October 5, 2011

On Friday, September 30, 2011 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) was notified that Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) will conduct a voluntary Recall Campaign on certain Model Year 2011 **Diesel Fuel Only** M-Class (164), GL-Class (164.8), E-Class Sedan (212), R-Class (251) and Model Year 2012 S-Class vehicles with regard to the diesel fuel filter. This notification will be posted on the NHTSA web site and may generate some customer questions.

## Background

The diesel fuel filter utilizes several different O-rings to seal components within the filter. DAG has determined that due to variations in the composition of the raw materials used by the sub-supplier, the O-ring used to seal the fuel heating component in the diesel fuel filter may have a lower material compression property. In combination with a higher tolerance range in the injection molded mating surface, these O-rings may lead to leakage from the fuel filter around the heating component. As a result, diesel fuel may be deposited onto the highway and create the potential for an accident.

MBUSA therefore has initiated a voluntary recall of all potentially affected vehicles described above. The recall will be conducted to replace the diesel fuel filters in the subject vehicles.

Given this notice, it is a violation of Federal law for a dealer to deliver any new or used affected motor vehicle; Model Year 2011, Diesel Fuel Only, M-Class (164), GL-Class (164.8), E-Class Sedan (212), R-Class (251), and Model Year 2012 S-Class (221) covered by this notification, for sale or lease, until the vehicle has been repaired. See attached Excel file of affected vehicles in dealer inventory.

**Other than verifying if any of the vehicles on the list are in your inventory, no action is required, at this time until this Recall Campaign is launched in mid/late November, 2011 (based on parts availability) and affects approximately 6,872 vehicles in the U.S.**

Owner notifications will to be sent approximately one week after recall launch.

While we regret any inconvenience this causes, Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC is determined to maintain a high level of vehicle quality and customer satisfaction.

Please refer all customer inquiries to the Customer Assistance Center at 1-800-FOR-MERCEdes (1-800-367-6372).