

Investor Relations Release

Date:

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In the following please find the Mercedes-Benz USA sales release for December 2012:

MERCEDES-BENZ USA HITS ITS HIGHEST-EVER U.S. VOLUME WITH SALES OF 305,072

Mercedes-Benz, smart and Sprinter All Set Records

MONTVALE, N.J. – Mercedes-Benz USA (MBUSA) today reported its highest year on record with 305,072 vehicles sold in 2012, representing a 15.4% increase over the 264,460 vehicles sold during the same period in 2011. The Mercedes-Benz model line alone also recorded a record year with sales of 274,134 for the year, up 11.8%. Smart and Sprinter model lines both achieved their highest volumes under the MBUSA umbrella with smart sales increasing 92.2% to 10,009 while a record month for Sprinter took the brand to 20,929 for 2012, an increase of 26.3%.

“A strong product offensive backed our retail network’s commitment to providing a world-class ownership experience put the wind at our back and enabled us to outperform the market and take the brand to new heights in the U.S.,” said Steve Cannon, president & CEO of MBUSA. “We’re going to ride that momentum into 2013 with new products across the entire model line from entry point to flagship.” For December, the Mercedes-Benz product line alone posted sales of 28,145 vehicles (up 9.5% from 25,701 in December 2011) bringing MBUSA sales to a best-ever 31,372, up 12.0% from the 28,006 vehicles sold in December 2011.

Strong sales were recorded across the model line. The sporty C-Class – the gateway to the Mercedes-Benz brand for younger and first-time Mercedes-Benz buyers – recorded its highest year on record with sales of 81,697, up 17.9% over its year-to-date volume in 2011. The 9th generation E-Class followed with sales of 65,171, and the M-Class,

MBUSA's top-selling SUV, rounded out the top three with sales of 38,101.

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For December, sales at the high-end increased as well, with combined sales of S-, CL- and SL-Class vehicles increasing 18.9% percent to 17,416 (when compared to the 14,650 vehicles sold in 2011). Separately, sales of Sprinter Vans increased by 39.9% for the month with sales of 2,231 compared to the 1,595 vehicles sold in December 2011.

Sales of the smart fortwo totaled 996 vehicles in December, up 40.3% for the month (compared to the 710 vehicles sold in December 2011). Sales of the high-performance AMG models were 6,658 for the year a 27.5% increase of the 5,220 vehicles sold over the same period last year.

Sales of the company's BlueTEC diesel models were up 7.4% for the year at 15,416 compared to the 14,358 diesels sold in 2011.

Additionally, through the Mercedes-Benz Certified Pre-Owned (MBCPO) program, MBUSA sold 6,949 vehicles in December; an increase of 13.7% when compared to December 2011 (sales of 6,112 vehicles). On a year-to-date basis, MBCPO sold 80,380 vehicles, an increase of 7.8% over the comparable period (with sales of 74,571 vehicles).

About Mercedes-Benz USA

Mercedes-Benz USA (MBUSA), headquartered in Montvale, New Jersey, is responsible for the distribution, marketing and customer service for all Mercedes-Benz products in the United States. MBUSA offers drivers the most diverse line-up in the luxury segment with 14 model lines ranging from the sporty C-Class to the flagship S-Class sedans and the SLS AMG supercar.

MBUSA is also responsible for the distribution, marketing and customer service of Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Vans and smart in the US. More information on MBUSA and its products can be found at www.mbusa.com, www.mbsprinterusa.com and www.smartusa.com

Accredited journalists can visit our media site at www.media.mbusa.com

Further Investor Relations information on Daimler is available on the Internet via www.daimler.com/investors and on handhelds via <http://www.daimler.mobi> .

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Mercedes-Benz Passenger Vehicles	Dec-12	Dec-11	Monthly %	YTD 2012	YTD 2011	Yearly %
B-CLASS	1	0		29	19	52.6%
C-CLASS	7,757	7,744	0.2%	81,697	69,314	17.9%
E-CLASS	6,984	5,301	31.7%	65,171	62,736	3.9%
S-CLASS	1,110	1,073	3.4%	11,794	12,258	-3.8%
CL-CLASS	71	57	24.6%	723	943	-23.3%
SL-CLASS	503	99	408.1%	4,899	1,449	238.1%
SLS AMG	38	86	-55.8%	800	722	10.8%
CLK-CLASS	0	1	-100.0%	1	6	-83.3%
SLK-CLASS	445	266	67.3%	4,595	3,220	42.7%
CLS-CLASS	703	638	10.2%	8,065	5,665	42.4%
R-CLASS	9	144	-93.8%	1,473	2,385	-38.2%
M-CLASS	4,241	5,313	-20.2%	38,101	35,835	6.3%
G-CLASS	168	55	205.5%	1,330	1,191	11.7%
GL-CLASS	3,111	2,578	20.7%	26,042	25,139	3.6%
GLK-CLASS	3,004	2,346	28.0%	29,364	24,310	20.8%
MAYBACH				50	39	28.2%
TOTAL	28,145	25,701	9.5%	274,134	245,231	11.8%
*SPRINTER	2,231	1,595	39.9%	20,929	16,577	26.3%
smart	996	710	40.3%	10,009	5208	92.2%
MBUSA Combined Total	Dec-12	Dec-11	Monthly %	YTD 2012	YTD 2011	Yearly %
GRAND TOTAL	31,372	28,006	12.0%	305,072	264,460***	15.4%
<i>*Mercedes-Benz and Freightliner Sprinter Vans are sold and marketed in the U.S. by Mercedes-Benz USA and Daimler Vans USA, respectively.</i>						
<i>**Includes some vehicles sold by the Penske organization</i>						
<i>***Does not include vehicles sold by the Penske Organization</i>						