

OEM Website Audit Report

Appendix C16 Mercedes Benz Summary Table.pdf

August 2006

Segment 1: Ease of Use, Accessibility, and Website Navigation

Mercedes Benz Auditors	1.1				1.2				1.3				1.3a				1.4				1.5				1.6					
	Yes	No	Ranking	NA	Yes	No	Ranking	NA	Yes	No	Ranking	NA	Yes	No	Ranking	NA	Yes	No	Ranking	NA	Yes	No	Ranking	NA	Yes	No	Ranking	NA		
Mercedes_Auditor 2	X		4		X		2		X		4		X		4			X		5		X		3			X		4	
Mercedes_Auditor 7	X		1		X		1		X		1		X		1		X		1			X		1			X		1	
Mercedes_Auditor 9	X		B		X		B		X		B		X		B			X		B		X		B			X		B	
Mercedes_Auditor 10	X		5		X		5			X		1		X		5			X		5		X		5			X		5
Total	4				4				3	1			4				1	3			4				1	3				
Average			3.33				2.67				2				3.33				3.67				3					3.33		

*** Note: The rankings range from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent). An entry of "B" indicates that the auditor did not provide a response.**

Question 1.1: Does the website provide users with a description of the minimum computer hardware and software needed by the user to access that OEM's information (e.g., computer processor speed and operating system software)? This description or a link to it should appear when users first log on to the homepage of the OEM's website.

Question 1.2: Did the website allow you to search the OEM website by various topics including but not limited to model, model year, key words or phrases, etc.?

Question 1.3: Did the website provide accessibility using common, readily available software and shall not require the use of proprietary software, hardware, viewers, or browsers?

Question 1.3a: Did the OEM website provide hyperlinks to any plug-ins, viewers or browsers (e.g., Adobe Acrobat or Netscape) needed to access the OEM website?

Question 1.4: Did you have any difficulty connecting to the website?

Question 1.5: Were you able to navigate the website without returning to the OEM service information home page or a search engine in order to access a different portion of the site?

Question 1.6: If you were a first time user, does the website involve a waiting period for registration to receive a password, PIN code, or some other approval (such as PayPal)?

Segment 2: OBD System Monitors

Mercedes Benz Auditors	2.1			2.1a			2.2			2.3			2.3a			2.4			2.5			2.6		
	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA
Mercedes_Auditor 2	X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X		
Mercedes_Auditor 7	X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X		
Mercedes_Auditor 9	X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X		
Mercedes_Auditor 10		X		X				X		X				X			X			X			X	
Total	3	1		2	2		3	1		4			3	1		3	1		3	1		3	1	

Question 2.1: Are there descriptions of all the OBD monitors and their operation?

Question 2.1a: Did any of these monitor descriptions lack sufficient information? If so, please explain in the "Notes" column.

Question 2.2: Were you able to find a description of all parameters (strategies) being monitored? Parameters can refer either to PID descriptions or the general monitoring strategies of the ECU.

Question 2.3: Was there a list of Diagnostic Trouble Codes relating to these monitors?

Question 2.3a: Did you find the list sufficient to assist in the diagnosis and/or repair of the vehicle? If your answer is "No" please explain in the "Notes" column.

Question 2.4: Were you able to determine the enable criteria for each monitor?

Question 2.5: Are the sequence, execution frequency, and duration of the monitor explained?

Question 2.6: Were you able to find the malfunction thresholds for the monitor?

Segment 4: Reprogramming and Reinitialization Information

Mercedes Benz Auditors	4.1			4.2			4.3			4.4			4.5			4.6			4.7			4.8			4.9			4.10			4.11		
	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA			
Mercedes_Auditor 2	X					B			X			B			X			X			X			X			X			X			
Mercedes_Auditor 7	X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X		
Mercedes_Auditor 9	X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X		
Mercedes_Auditor 10	X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X			X		
Total	4			3		1	3		1	2		2	2		2		2	2		1	1	2		4		3	1		2	2		4	

* Note: Since the manufacturer is not Honda, Acura, VW, Audi, Mitsubishi, Chrysler or LandRover, Questions 4.12 and 4.13 have not been included in this table because they do not apply to these auditors. An entry of "B" indicates that the auditor did not provide a response.

Question 4.1: Are you able to find information on tools needed to perform reprogramming?
Question 4.2: Are you able to find the procedures to perform reprogramming?
Question 4.3: If reprogramming is performed using a J2534 device was the software available to communicate between the device and the PC?
Question 4.4: Is the information to select the proper calibration for the vehicle available?
Question 4.5: Is the vehicle calibration available?
Question 4.6: Have you performed reprogramming services within the last 12 months for this OEM?
Question 4.7: If applicable, were you able to perform a successful update/reprogram?
Question 4.8: Does this OEM require initialization or reinitialization when the ECU is replaced? If no, skip to Segment 5. For the purposes of this audit, initialization or reinitialization refers to the need to reset a vehicle's security systems by means of an ignition key or access code to allow a vehicle to be restarted after the completion of emissions-related repairs.
Question 4.9: Are you able to find information on tools needed to perform reinitialization?
Question 4.10: Are you able to find the procedures to perform reinitialization?
Question 4.11: Have you performed reinitialization services within the last 12 months for this OEM?
Question 4.12: EPA regulations allow for OEMs to offer an alternative method of reinitialization with prior approval. These companies have received approval to lease their OEM-specific scan tool to the aftermarket to perform this service. Are you able to find information about alternate methods and links to the source of that method?
Question 4.13: Do you have any experience using the alternate method?
Question 4.13a: If so, has it worked to your satisfaction?
Question 4.13b: If not, please explain.

Segment 5: Structure and Cost of OEM Websites

Mercedes Benz Auditors	5.1			5.2			5.3			5.4			5.5c			5.6			5.7					5.8				5.9						5.10						5.11					5.12				NA/NO
	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	Yes	No	NA	1	2	3	4	5	NA	1	2	3	NA	1	2	3	4	NA	1	2	3	4	5	6	NA	1	2	3	4	5	NA	1	2	3	4	NA	
Mercedes_Auditor 2	X			X			X			X			X	X					X			X	X					X			X										X			X					
Mercedes_Auditor 7	X			X			X			X			X			X						X				X					X							X						X					
Mercedes_Auditor 9	X			X					X	X			X				X					X						X						X				X						X					
Mercedes_Auditor 10	X			X			X			X			X						X							X			X							B		X						X					X
Total	4			4			3	1	4				1	2	1	1	3		1	1	2					2	1	1	2	2				2	1	1	3			1			4					1	

* Note: Since Questions 5.2a, 5.3a, 5.5, 5.5a, 5.5b, and 5.6a do not request a Yes/No response and require detailed comments from the auditor, the results are not included in this table. Questions 5.10, 5.11, and 5.12 are only applicable if the auditor's primary source of service information is aftermarket services such as ALLDATA or Mitchell1. An entry of "B" indicates that the auditor did not provide a response.

Question 5.1: Does the website have short-term, mid-term, and long-term access to service information?
Question 5.2: Were you able to access the entire site?
Question 5.2a: Please identify areas that you could not access for the initial fee (such as reprogramming information) in the "Notes" column.
Question 5.3: Although downloading information is not explicitly required by EPA regulations, did the website allow you to save and store any information to your computer?
Question 5.3a: If so, please identify the information or documents that were downloadable in the "Notes" column.
Question 5.4: Were you able to print the information from the website?
Question 5.5: Audi, Porsche, and Volkswagen websites require the purchase of individual documents to access repair information. For the purposes of this evaluation, how many individual documents would you have had to purchase to acquire all of the information you needed to perform the repair?
Question 5.5a: What would have been the total cost of those documents? Please identify in the "Notes" column.
Question 5.5b: What emissions repair were you trying to do?
Question 5.5c: Some manufacturer websites require the purchase of individual documents for downloading before they can be fully viewed. In some cases, only the table of contents is available for viewing before the purchase is made. Did you purchase documents that did not contain the information you were seeking? If yes, then please identify the document and the cost of that document in the "Notes" column.
Question 5.6: Have you purchased service information, training materials, TSBs, CDs, videos, CD-ROMs, etc. from the website?
Question 5.6a: If so, indicate in the "Notes" column the number and description of materials purchased.
Question 5.7: Does your shop specialize in vehicle repairs from specific OEMs? Please specify 1) Asian; 2) European; 3) Domestic; 4) a specific OEM website; or 5) No specialty.
Question 5.8: What is your primary source for electronic service information? Please indicate 1) Aftermarket (e.g., ALLDATA, Mitchell1, etc.); 2) OEM websites; or 3) Other.
Question 5.9: How much do you spend for an annual subscription to your primary source listed above? Please select 1) \$0 - \$500; 2) 500 - \$1,000; 3) 1,000 - \$2,000; or 4) Over \$2,000.
Question 5.10: What is the primary reason for selecting the primary source listed in question 5.8? Please select: 1) Completeness for the brands I service; 2) Experience/Familiarity with the product; 3) Available off-line; 4) Common organization of information for all manufacturers; 5) Price; or 6) Other (please explain).
Question 5.11: Approximately how many times do you access an OEM website? Please select: 1) Never; 2) 1 to 5 times monthly; 3) 5 to 10 times monthly; 4) 10 to 20 times monthly; 5) Over 20 times monthly.
Question 5.12: Do you typically subscribe to OEM websites? If so, please indicate the type of subscription that you usually purchase. Please select: 1) 24 to 72 hour subscription; 2) Monthly subscription; or 3) Annual subscription.

