



Mercedes-Benz

20 Years of Production

Press Information

**Mercedes-Benz Plant Tuscaloosa**

September 21, 2017

**Mercedes-Benz U.S. International, Inc. (MBUSI)**

**Facts at a Glance**

Plant Leadership	Jason Hoff – President & CEO
Products	GLE-, GLS- and GLE Coupe SUVs, C-Class Sedan for North America
Location	Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, USA
Total Plant Site	1,000 Acres
Plant Area	~ 6 Million Square Feet
Facility Investment	To date, more than \$5 billion (doesn't include new investment of \$1 billion)
Buildings on Site	Body, Paint & Assembly shops, Logistics Center, Training & Visitor Center
Employees	More than 3,700 Team Members (7,000-8,000 on site daily)
Production Began	February 1997
2016 Production Volume	More than 310,000 units
Number of Major Suppliers	Currently, there are almost 200 U.S.- based suppliers providing support to the Mercedes-Benz Tuscaloosa plant.
Local Content (in value)	Localization rate is continually being increased
Product Distribution	Distributed to 135 markets worldwide from New Brunswick, GA

**Milestones**

SEPTEMBER 1993: Tuscaloosa, Alabama chosen as the production location for the future Mercedes-Benz M-Class.

MAY 1994: Groundbreaking.

Page 2

FEBRUARY 1997: First M-Class customer vehicle “Job 1” rolls off the production line.

MAY 1997: M-Class unveiled to the public during plant’s Grand Opening.

JULY 1998: \$40 million expansion announced for Tuscaloosa plant, to expand capacity by 20% to 80,000 units.

AUGUST 2000: DaimlerChrysler AG announces plans to invest \$600 million to expand the Tuscaloosa plant for future products.

DECEMBER 2004: Last original M-Class rolls off the production line. More than 573,000 M-Class vehicles were produced in Tuscaloosa during the vehicle’s eight-year lifecycle.

MAY 2005: Official New Plant Opening in Tuscaloosa.

JULY 2005: DCAG announces that a third product will be built in Tuscaloosa – the new GL-Class.

MARCH 2006: The first GL-Class customer vehicle “Job 1” rolls off the production line.

NOVEMBER: 1 Millionth vehicle comes off the production line.

OCTOBER 2008: The first BlueTEC SUV models roll off the line in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama. The first vehicles – destined for the U.S. market – are powered by new-generation BlueTEC diesel engines that are available in all 50 states.

APRIL 2009: MBUSI announces a \$290-million expansion to add 225,000 square feet to its Body, Paint and Assembly shops.

NOVEMBER 2009: MBUSI debuts the ML 450 Hybrid – the first European Full Hybrid offered in the U.S.

DECEMBER 2009: Daimler AG announces plans to move some of the next generation C-Class production to MBUSI for launch in 2014. Paint 1 temporarily closed in part to prepare for future products.

AUGUST 2010: Completion of Body Shop expansion.

JULY 2011: The third-generation M-Class (W166) customer vehicle "Job 1" rolls off the production line, and Daimler AG's Dr. Dieter Zetsche announces another \$2 billion to be invested in Plant Tuscaloosa.

OCTOBER 2011: Announcement of fifth model to be built at Plant Tuscaloosa.

NOVEMBER 2011: MBUSI reaches milestone of 1.5 million vehicles built in Alabama.

APRIL 2012: MBUSI introduces 3rd production shift (C-Shift) for Assembly 2.

JUNE 2012: Job 1 Celebration for new GL-Class. MBUSI begins building SKD kits for India, Indonesia and Thailand.

JULY 2012: Assembly 1 temporarily ceases operations for plant renovation to prepare for the new C-Class.

SEPTEMBER 2013: MBUSI celebrates 20th Anniversary of announcement of the plant coming to Alabama.

MAY 2013: Ground breaking for new \$70 million, 900,000 square foot logistics center.

DECEMBER 2013: Grand Opening of new Mercedes-Benz Logistics Center, designed to streamline logistics operations and support receiving, handling and sequencing of parts.

JUNE 2014: MBUSI starts production of the all new C-Class (for North America) as part of the Mercedes-Benz Cars Global Strategy for the C-Class production network. MBUSI Paint Shop adds 3rd Shift.

JULY 2014: MBUSI builds 2 millionth vehicle.

APRIL 2015: Start of Production for the all-new GLE Coupe / Job 1 Celebration.

SEPTEMBER 2015: Mercedes-Benz Cars announces \$1.3 billion expansion and creation of 300 new jobs.

Page 4

DECEMBER 2015: MBUSI reaches a significant milestone – 300,000 vehicles built in a single year at the Tuscaloosa plant.

JULY 2017: MBUSI implements the new AM Supply Logistics system into its plant operations.

AUGUST 2017: MBUSI builds its 750,000th GLE SUV.

**Contact:**

Felyicia Jerald, +1 205 5073507, [felyicia.jerald@daimler.com](mailto:felyicia.jerald@daimler.com)

Further information about Mercedes-Benz is available online:

[www.media.daimler.com](http://www.media.daimler.com) and [www.mercedes-benz.com](http://www.mercedes-benz.com)