

# 1974-79 EXHAUST EMISSION SYSTEMS

## Mercedes-Benz Catalytic Converters

### All Models

### DESCRIPTION

All Mercedes-Benz models are equipped with catalytic converters to aid in the reduction of exhaust emissions. The converter(s) are located in the exhaust system, in front of muffler(s). Depending on vehicle application, models are equipped with one, two, or three converters.

**230 Models** – Equipped with a single catalytic converter installed in exhaust pipe ahead of mufflers.

**280 Models** – All Federal models are equipped with a single catalytic converter installed in exhaust pipe, ahead of mufflers. All California models are equipped with three catalytic converters; two small converters mounted directly to exhaust manifold and one larger converter installed in exhaust pipe, ahead of mufflers.

**450 SL & SLC Models** – Because of space requirements, these models are equipped with a single catalytic converter which is combined with the main muffler.

**450 SEL & 6.9 Models** – These models are equipped with two catalytic converters (one for each cylinder bank). Due to the strict emission control values, California models of the 450 SEL are equipped with larger catalytic converters than the Federal models.

### OPERATION

**230 Models** – The catalytic converter on these models is constructed as a dual element catalyst. In one housing there are two monoliths, a smaller one in front and a wider one in the rear. The monoliths are oval-shaped honeycomb structures of ceramic material which are suspended in a wire mesh structure. The precious metal coating on the monoliths accelerates, in conjunction with the air injection, the oxidation of carbon monoxide (CO) and hydrocarbons (HC).

**280 Models** – The catalytic converter used on these models consists of monoliths which are a honeycomb structure of ceramic material and are suspended in a wire mesh structure. The precious metal coating (the actual catalyst) accelerates in conjunction with injected air the oxidation of carbon monoxide (CO) and hydrocarbons (HC).

**450 & 6.9 Models** – The catalytic converters used on these models consists of an oval monolith, a honeycomb body of ceramic material which is suspended in a wire mesh structure. The precious metal coating on the monolith accelerates, in conjunction with the injected air, the oxidation of carbon monoxide (CO) and hydrocarbons (HC).

### CATALYST REPLACEMENT WARNING

**280 Calif. Models** – A catalyst replacement warning light is located in instrument panel cluster. When converter requires replacement, the light comes on. The warning light is controlled by a mileage counter located under instrument panel and driven by speedometer cable.

### MAINTENANCE

#### WARNING LIGHT RESET

**280 Calif. Models** – The catalytic converter(s) must be replaced at regular intervals. When converter replacement is required, a "CATALYST" warning indicator light on the instrument panel will come on.

The indicator light is controlled by a mileage counter. Located under the instrument panel, the counter is driven by the speedometer cable. After converter replacement, the contact in the mileage counter must be opened to turn off the "CATALYST" light. To open contact, depress mileage counter reset button. See Fig. 1.

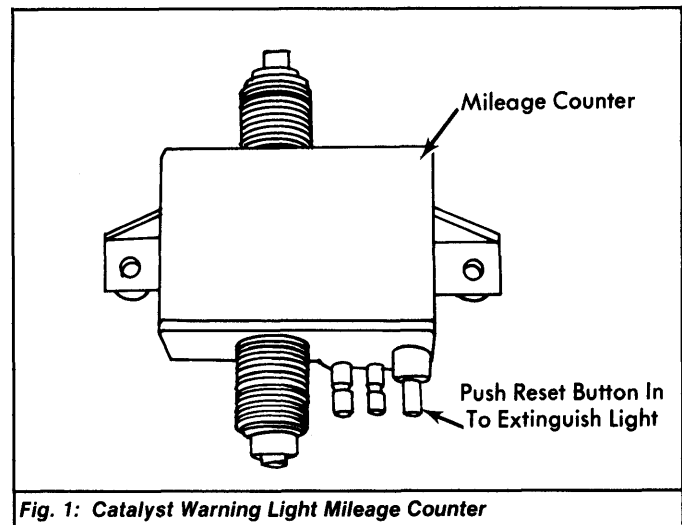


Fig. 1: Catalyst Warning Light Mileage Counter