

**PRESS RELEASE**
14 July 2008**NEW PRODUCT MEETS GROWING NEED IN MERCEDES PASSENGER CAR MAINTENANCE***Enable service functions on Sensortronic brake systems from Mercedes-Benz*

Strategic Tools & Equipment Company announces a new electronic brake service and reset tool to enable technicians to service brakes and components used in SBC systems on a number of Mercedes vehicles (SL and E-class) from the 2003-2006 model years. The tool enables the technician to clear errors from the SBC system after carrying out brake service and repairs. It is compatible with the latest CAN vehicles. Most importantly, it allows the technician to enable and disable SBC systems for safe working practices. And, the tool is updateable for future functionality.

The Mercedes SBC system incorporates various systems which have previously been separate, such as the ABS, ASR, BAS, ESP and ETS. The SBC system can be "woken up" by opening a door, operating the central locking system, pressing the brake pedal, turning on the ignition, or operating the park brake. When this occurs the system runs pre-checks which include a pressurization of the braking system. If the brakes are either being worked on or are dismantled when these pre-checks occur, it can lead to personal injury or damage to parts of the caliper and pad assembly. The SBC tool allows the technician to disable the system during service and repair work, allowing a safer working environment.

With the SBC Tool, the Sensortronic System can be de-activated, allowing the brake pads to be removed safely for service. This also provides assistance in fitting new brake calipers and disks, as well as replacing wheel hubs, because the system is safely disabled. When work is complete, the technician uses the SBC tool to reactivate the Sensortronic System. Then, the technician can complete a "clear codes" operation (after re-activation) in case any codes have been stored during service. In fact, the technician can use this tool to clear faults in the system prior to work as a pre-check before carrying out routine work on a potentially faulty system.

The SBC Tool was designed with the future in mind; as the SBC systems to future models, updates for the tool will be available. Because of the technology and benefits, this system will be very popular with independent service shops, technicians, and enthusiasts. "The modest investment in the SBC tool will show an extremely attractive ROI," said Alan Hill, Vice President of Strategic Tools & Equipment Company, the authorized master distributor of the SBC tool in the United States and Canada.

To find out more about this exciting new product, please contact Strategic Tools & Equipment Company, located in Lindenhurst, Illinois. The company serves channels and customers in professional tool distribution, automotive service, and manufacturing facilities throughout the Americas, Europe, and Asia.

For more information, please contact



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