The Mercedes–Benz W123 is a range of executive cars produced by German manufacturer Mercedes–Benz from November 1975 to January 1986. The W123 models surpassed their predecessor, the Mercedes–Benz W114, as the most successful Mercedes, selling 2.7 million units before production ended in the autumn of 1985 for the saloon/sedan versions and January 1986 for coupes and estates/station wagons. [4] Following a slow production build–up during the first year, customers who placed their orders faced a lengthy waiting period of nine to twelve months. A black market emerged for . the customers who were willing to pay more for immediate delivery