



SUBJECT

Outer Door Handles Freeze

MODEL

R50 (MINI Cooper) and R53 (MINI Cooper S)

SITUATION

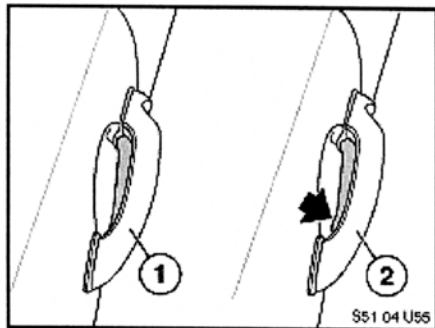
Customers may complain of one or both outer door releases failing to operate in freezing weather. This usually occurs after a period of heavy rain followed by a sudden, hard freeze.

CAUSE

Water may enter inside the bowden cable connecting the outer door handle to the latch assembly. If the temperature drops below freezing before the water dries out, the water may freeze - preventing movement of the inner cable.

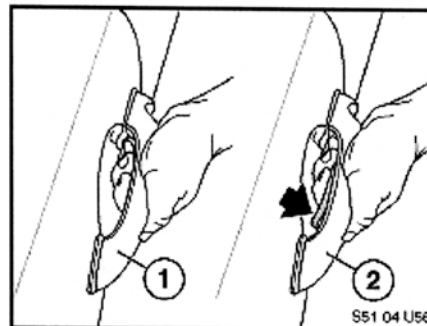
CORRECTION

The outer door handles were improved in April 2004. Please see the illustrations below on how to recognize the improved outer door handles.



Outer door handles in free state.

- 1 - Original outer door handle
- 2 - Improved outer door handle



Outer door handles when pressed.

- 1 - Original outer door handle
- 2 - Improved outer door handle

PROCEDURE

In the event of a customer complaint, replace both left and right outer door handles with the improved parts by following the Repair Instruction 51 21 170.

PARTS INFORMATION

Part Number	Description	Quantity
51 21 7 147 503	Left Outer Door Handle	1
51 21 7 147 504	Right Outer Door Handle	1

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Covered under the terms of the MINI New Vehicle Limited Warranty.