

Hull, MA

2006 JUN 15 PM 4:16

June 5, 2006

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Concerned:

On May 5, 2006 I was driving my 2002 PT Cruiser on Route 128 South. After using my cruise control for a period of time, I stepped on the brakes to intentionally release its use. There was no response; ie the vehicle did not reduce speed. I was able to avoid traffic as I tried to reduce the speed of my vehicle by braking and manipulating the cruise control button and shift. The vehicle eventually reduced to a manageable speed, until it was time for me to exit the highway. On the exit ramp at Quincy, MA., behind neighborhood traffic and at the red lights through Quincy, Weymouth, Hingham and Hull, the vehicle would not reduce speed below 2000 RPM's. In the meantime I used my mobile phone to call Weber Dodge in Hingham to make an appointment for Monday May 8. I had to constantly use the brakes to control the speed of the vehicle and I think that was the horrible smell when I finally reached my home and immediately shut off the engine; by this time the RPM's were fluctuating between 6000 and 8000. This was a scary and unexpected situation.

The next day my spouse started the vehicle to bring it to the street to be towed. It was still idling at high RPM's. We had the vehicle towed to Weber Dodge on May 6 where it was stored until a test drive on May 8, part ordered from New York, and returned to me on May 11. These days without my vehicle were inconvenient and unexpected.

I would appreciate a response to this letter and am asking the following:

1. A rebate from DaimlerChrysler Corp. (receipt enclosed)
2. An explanation(s) of how this part could "came apart"
3. Why is there not a fail safety on this part or on the cruise control ? (I use the last word by definition only)
4. Is it safe that this part is plastic?
5. Should this particular cruise system be part of a safety check every 3000 miles?
6. Do you think there should be a recall on this part?
7. Do you think there has been irreparable damage to the engine?
8. Can you guarantee the new part and my safety?

Sincerely,

CC: DaimlerChrysler
Weber Dodge, MA
Consumer Reports
Port City Chrysler, NH

Road & Track Magazine
Center for Auto Safety
Council for Better Business Bureaus, Inc.
State Attorney General Tom Reilly

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