



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 05-020

Prompted By: PE05-039

Date Opened: 11/14/2005

Date Closed: 09/12/2006

Principal Investigator: John Abbott

Subject: Fan Blade Failure (Engine Cooling Fan)

Manufacturer: DaimlerChrysler Corporation
Products: 2002 Jeep Grand Cherokee with 4.0l I6 Engine
Population: 131,575

Problem Description: Fracture and separation of the blades from the engine's electric motor driven cooling fan

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	24	172	196
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

*Description of Other:

Action: Close Engineering Analysis EA05-020. Please see the recall documents for 06V-199 for details

Engineer: John Abbott

Date: 09/12/2006

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper

Date: 09/12/2006

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 09/12/2006

Summary: DaimlerChrysler Corporation (DCC) has notified the agency that it will conduct a safety recall (06V199) of certain Jeep Grand Cherokee vehicles to replace the engine's electric motor driven cooling fan. The 182,875 vehicles included in the recall are model year (MY) 2002 equipped with 4.0 liter (six cylinder) engines manufactured from February 4, 2002 through June 17, 2002; and MY 2000 equipped with either the 4.0 liter (six cylinder) or the 4.7 liter (eight cylinder) engine manufactured from January 31, 2000 through June 12, 2000.

DCC noted that their analysis of failed parts showed evidence of brittle fracture of the fan blade. DCC further stated, "poor bonding between the resin material and the glass fibers was observed, which may be attributed to the injection molding process."

Since the root cause of fan failure could not be conclusively identified DCC decided the recall scope would be determined by the build date range of the complaint vehicles. There were 48 reports for MY 2000, and 196 for MY 2002.

ODI will continue to monitor this issue for reports on vehicles outside of the recall scope.

9/13/06
JFA