

JAN 8 2007

Stephan J. Speth  
Director, Vehicle Safety & Regulatory  
DaimlerChrysler Corporation  
800 Chrysler Drive  
CIMS 482-00-91  
Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2757

Re: DaimlerChrysler Request for Confidential Treatment for Information  
Provided in EA05-018

Dear Mr. Speth:

This responds to your October 24, 2006 letter requesting confidential treatment for information submitted by DaimlerChrysler Corporation (DCC) in response to the above agency request. The information at issue consists of an Excel spreadsheet responding to the Office of Defects Investigation's additional questions 2(a-d) that contains details of the Interior CAN-B Bus and Powertrain CAN-C Bus system for MY 04 and MY 05 Durango vehicles. The submission also contains the Performance Standard for the CAN Multiplexing System and the J1850 Multiplexing System. DCC requests permanent confidential treatment for this information.

I have decided to grant your request.

The agency reviewed DCC's claim for confidential treatment under the test announced in *National Parks & Conservation Ass'n v. Morton*, 498 F.2d 765 (D.C. Cir. 1974) and its progeny. Under that test, information is confidential under Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4), if its disclosure is likely to cause substantial competitive harm to the submitter or to impair the government's ability to collect the information in the future.

DCC's submission contains an excel spreadsheet identifying the individual nodes of the interior CAN-B Bus and the Powertrain CAN-C-Bus. The submission also contains the Performance Standard for the CAN Multiplexing System and the J1850 Multiplexing System. The CAN Multiplexing system and the J1850 Multiplexing system took considerable time and expense to implement. If this information is disclosed, competitors would gain insight into DCC's internal vehicle systems and design standards at DCC's expense. Accordingly, I am granting your request.

This grant of confidential treatment is subject to certain conditions. The information may be disclosed under 49 CFR § 512.22 based upon newly discovered or changed facts, and you must inform the agency of any changed circumstances that may affect the protection of the information (49 CFR § 512.10). If necessary, you will be notified prior to the release of any information under the procedures established by our regulations (49 CFR § 512.22(b)).

Sincerely,

**Original Signed By**

Otto G. Matheke, III  
Senior Attorney

NHTSA:NCC-111ajd: 12/27/06:cyt:65263  
NCC-113 Subj/Chron, ajd, om, cyt **NCC06-006839**  
Info: NVS-213: C. Lash w/enclosure  
Confidentiality/Misc06/DCC06-006839ajd.doc