

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

00V-196 (01)

DaimlerChrysler Corporation
Matthew C. Reynolds
Director
Vehicle Compliance & Safety Affairs

July 17, 2000

Mr. Kenneth N. Weinstein
Associate Administrator, Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

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OFFICE
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Attached is DaimlerChrysler Corporation's Defect Information Report regarding some 2000 model year Chrysler Cirrus, Plymouth Breeze, and Dodge Stratus vehicles. The affected vehicles may have an inadequate weld between the right front brake hose block and the stand-off bracket.

DaimlerChrysler will formalize the recall requirements and instructions to dealers in the near future. Copies will be provided to the NHTSA when available, and Vehicle Identification Number range and assembly plant information for the involved vehicles will also be furnished at that time.

Sincerely,



Matthew C Reynolds

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for DaimlerChrysler Recall # 888

cc: K.C. DeMeter, NHTSA
Division of Occupational Safety & Health
California Department of Industrial Relations

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER RECALL # 888

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Submission date: July 17, 2000**Identifying classification of vehicles potentially affected:**

<u>Make</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Model Year</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates of Manufacture</u>	<u>Volume</u>
Chrysler	Cirrus	2000	April 3, 2000	3,400 (est.)
Dodge	Stratus		through	
Plymouth	Breeze		April 7, 2000	

Estimated percentage containing defect: 55%**Description of defect:**

Some vehicles may have been built with an inadequate weld between the right front brake hose block and the stand-off bracket.

The name, address and telephone number of the supplier who manufactured the subject components:

Continental Hose
500 Raybestos Drive
Upper Sandusky, OH. 43351
(248) 844-1720

The following chronology of principal events led to the determination of a defect:

- Brake hose weld quality issues were discovered on 4/4/00 at the assembly plant, when 11 stand-off brackets separated on line during installation.
- Hoses checked by the vendor indicated approximately 55% had deficient welds.
- Root cause of the bracket separation was determined to relate to the weld tip pressure adjustments made to the welder. Parts were not verified for weld integrity after the adjustment.
- Engineering assessment indicates that separation of the stand-off bracket from the block may cause fatigue damage of the right front brake tube and result in a half system brake loss.
- No reports of this condition have been received from the field or customers
- This issue was presented to the VRC (Vehicle Regulations Committee) on July 10, 2000, to evaluate risk to motor vehicle safety and scope of the issue. A decision was made to conduct a safety recall.

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DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER RECALL # 888

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Statement of measures to be taken to correct defect:

A safety recall will be conducted on the affected vehicles to add a brake line bracket to the right front brake tube. A supply of the necessary replacement parts is being procured and the information required for implementation is being prepared.

DaimlerChrysler expects to implement parts distribution and national notification to both dealers and owners in late August 2000.