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September 13, 2000

Ms. Kathleen DeMeter, Esq.
Director, Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

OFFICE
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

00V-278 (01)

Re: Defect Information Report

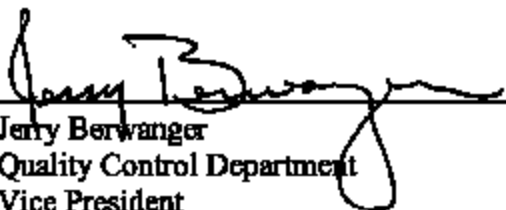
Ms. DeMeter:

In accordance with the provisions of 49 CFR Part 573.5 Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Mitsubishi Motor Manufacturing of America, Inc. (MMMA) hereby furnishes this Defect Information Report (MMMA reference number 01XKND0100), which contains details of a potential defect in some 2001 model year MMMA manufactured vehicles.

The distributor of the affected vehicles, DaimlerChrysler will implement any activity as appropriate acting as an agent of MMMA. Any corrective action will be decided upon within the next 4 weeks. If necessary, copies of an Owner Notification Letter, Service Bulletin or other documents will be forwarded to the NHTSA by our distributor.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (309) 888-8900 or Mr. J. Bachman at (309) 888-8943.

Sincerely,



Jerry Berwanger
Quality Control Department
Vice President
Mitsubishi Motor Manufacturing of America, Inc.

attachment

Mitsubishi Motor Manufacturing of America, Inc. hereby submits a Defect Information Report for certain 2001 model year vehicles. The contents of this report have been arranged to follow the sequence set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations Title 49 § 573.5(c).

1. The manufacturer's name:

Mitsubishi Motor Manufacturing of America, Inc.

00V-278 (62)

2. Identification of the vehicles and defect item;

<u>Make</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Model Year</u>	<u>Dates of Manufacture</u>
Dodge	Stratus	2001	05/08/00 ~ 07/19/00
Chrysler	Sebring	2001	07/10/00 ~ 07/19/00

Item: Silencer Pad, noise, vibration & harshness
Part Number: MR396434.

3. Total number of vehicles:

<u>Make</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Production Volume</u>
Dodge	Stratus	4226
Chrysler	Sebring	278
		<hr/> 4,504

4. Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the potential defect:

It is impossible to estimate the actual number of vehicles that will develop this defect, however; owners of all potentially affected Dodge Stratus and Chrysler Sebring will be notified and those vehicles will be included in this campaign.

5. Description of the defect including summary:

Through degradation of the bond between the silencer Pad and a sheet metal panel (quarter inner upper), the pad may fall onto the map light located in the rear seating area near the C-pillar trim panel (LH and RH).

This contact may cause the silencer pad to melt, creating a hot smell and or smoke during long periods of illumination.

Testing has confirmed that this condition will not result in a fire.

6. Chronological summary of events leading to this determination:

During a Mitsubishi audit of production vehicles, the potential for silencer pads to fall onto the lamp was found. A preliminary investigation resulted in Mitsubishi's decision to initiate this activity.

7. Test results for a noncompliance:

Not applicable.

00V-278 (03)

8. Description of the proposed remedy:

The ramifications of this condition remain under investigation. MMMA will inform the NHTSA within the next 4 weeks on the investigation results.

9. Launch date:

The estimated launch date for customer notification will be decided as soon as the results of the investigation are completed.

10. Notices, bulletins and communication:

DaimlerChrysler acting as our agent will provide the NHTSA with copies of any customer notification letter, service bulletin or other appropriate communications under separate cover.