

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

June 6, 2002

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

DaimlerChrysler Corporation
Stephan J. Speth
Director
Vehicle Compliance & Safety Affairs

02V-162 ① of ③

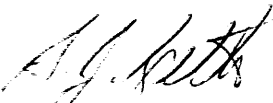
Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Attached is DaimlerChrysler Corporation's Noncompliance Information Report, complying with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, which contains details of a recall regarding a potential safety related noncompliance in some 2001 model year Chrysler PT Cruiser vehicles. One of the rear child seat anchors may have been manufactured with a wire diameter that is greater than the maximum allowable dimension as specified in FMVSS 225 S15.1.2.1(a).

All affected vehicles have been sold. As such, DaimlerChrysler Corporation will not issue a Stop Sale Order to our dealers.

DaimlerChrysler will formalize the recall requirements and instructions to dealers in the 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,



Stephan J. Speth

Enclosures: Noncompliance Information Report for DaimlerChrysler Recall # B21

cc: Marilynne Jacobs, Director OVSC, NHTSA
Division of Occupational Safety & Health
California Department of Industrial Relations

NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER RECALL # B21

Page 1

Submission date: June 6, 2002

02V-162 ② of ③

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	PT Cruiser	2001	August 1, 1999 through October 24, 2000	77,000 (est.)

Estimated percentage containing noncompliance: 100%

Description of noncompliance:

The right rear "65%" seat center lower anchor on some PT Cruisers was manufactured with a wire diameter that is greater than the maximum allowable dimension as specified in FMVSS225 S15.1.2.1(a).

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

Johnson Controls, Inc. (JCI)
49200 Halyard Drive
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 254-5101

The following chronology of principal events occurred between January 2002 and late May 2002 and led to the determination of a noncompliance:

- In January 2002, GM issued a recall (NHTSA Campaign 01V383000) to repair vehicles with child seat anchors which did not comply with FMVSS 225 S15.1.2.1(a). The affected anchors had a diameter greater than the specified 6.0 +/- 0.1 mm. The anchors were included in seat assemblies supplied to GM by Johnson Controls (JCI).
- GM initiated this campaign following NHTSA's denial of its petition for inconsequential treatment of this noncompliant condition.
- JCI had conducted an audit of the material certifications given by all of their anchor wire suppliers that dated back to prior to the inception of FMVSS 225. JCI discovered that a similar issue may have existed on some PT Cruiser right rear seat center anchors. For reference, the PT Cruiser anchor wire is unique from the GM wire (different supplier, different part).
- It was established that from the start of PT production until October 18, 2000, the right rear center anchor was manufactured with wire from a different supplier than the other four anchors.
- Records show that on October 18, 2000 the supplier for the 65% center anchor wire was changed and made common with the other four anchors. Seat assemblies with the new re-sourced wire were first built into vehicles starting on October 25, 2000.

NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER RECALL # B21

Page 2

- There are no issues with the other four anchors in the vehicle.
- A DaimlerChrysler survey of PT Cruiser vehicles built prior to the change showed diameters ranging from 6.39 to 6.44 mm. A survey of vehicles built after the change showed diameters ranging from 5.95 mm to 6.06 mm.
- DaimlerChrysler reviewed this issue with JCI and validated that vehicles built prior to October 25, 2000 likely do not meet FMVSS 225 S15.1.2.1(a).
- DaimlerChrysler has received no customer complaints or warranty claims relative to this issue.
- This data was presented to the Vehicle Regulations Committee on May 30, 2002 who decided to conduct a safety recall.

Description of Manufacturer's Program for remedying the noncompliance:

All affected vehicles will have the right rear seat center anchor inspected, and if necessary, resized to meet the diameter specified within FMVSS225. DaimlerChrysler expects to initiate national notification to both dealers and owners when a sufficient quantity of anchor resizing repair tools becomes available. DaimlerChrysler's scheduling information for implementing this recall is not available at this time.

DaimlerChrysler Corporation has a longstanding policy and practice of reimbursing owners who have incurred the cost of repairing a problem that subsequently becomes the subject of a field action. As part of the owner letter, DaimlerChrysler will request that customers send original receipt and/or other adequate proof of payment to the company for confirmation of the expense.