

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

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OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

February 3, 2004

DaimlerChrysler Corporation

Stephan J. Speth

Director

Vehicle Compliance & Safety Affairs

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

04V-048 ① of ③

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Attached is DaimlerChrysler Corporation's Defect Information Report, complying with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, which contains details of a potential safety related defect in a small number of 2004 model year Jeep vehicles. Due to a recent software programming error, the tire, wheel, and inflation pressure information was inadvertently omitted from the certification label.

DaimlerChrysler Corporation will conduct a voluntary safety recall to provide label overlays for the affected vehicles.

Sincerely,



Stephan J. Speth

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for DaimlerChrysler Corporation Recall #D05

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

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER RECALL #D05

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Submission date: February 3, 2004

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Identifying classification of vehicles potentially affected:

Make	Model	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture	Vehicle Volume
Jeep	Grand Cherokee	2004	January 9, 2004	82
Jeep	Liberty	2004	January 9, 2004	11
Jeep	Wrangler	2004	January 9, 2004	3

Estimated percentage containing defect: 100%**Description of defect:**

Due to a recent software programming error, the tire, wheel, and inflation pressure information was inadvertently omitted from the vehicle certification label.

The following chronology of principal events occurred during January, 2004 and led to the determination of a defect:

- During a routine inspection of the certification label attachment to the vehicle at DaimlerChrysler Corporation's Toledo Assembly Plant 2 on January 9th, 2004, it was discovered that the tire, wheel, and recommended inflation pressure information was not printed on the label.
- DaimlerChrysler's Manufacturing Information Technology Management (ITM) group was notified immediately and vehicles at the affected assembly plants were put on containment.
- It was established that Manufacturing ITM had implemented an interim program to allow printing of "tire specific" certification labels, a regulatory requirement for 2005 model year vehicles built effective September, 2004, using previous level label material stock for DaimlerChrysler Corporation's Windsor and St. Louis South plants.
- Manufacturing ITM had tested the system at DaimlerChrysler Corporation's Newark Assembly Plant without issue earlier in the week.

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- It was established that the affected plants did not have a 4 digit tire description code finalized in their program files (they utilized a previous level 2 digit format). The interim program was looking for this information in the 4 digit format, and consequently did not print any tire, wheel, or Inflation pressure Information on the label.
- Manufacturing ITM revised the affected plant programs to accommodate the 2 digit tire description code format.
- The affected DaimlerChrysler Corporation assembly plants fully contained the vehicle volume with the missing label information and retroactively fitted the affected vehicles with the correct certification labels prior to shipment. DaimlerChrysler Corporation's Windsor, St. Louis South, and Dodge City Assembly Plants were not running production at the time of the incident and subsequently were not affected.
- This data was presented to the Vehicle Regulations Committee on January 27th, 2004 who decided to conduct a safety recall by sending corrected tire certification label information to owners of the affected vehicles.

Statement of measures to be taken to correct defect:

DaimlerChrysler Corporation will conduct a safety recall to provide vehicle certification label overlays for the affected vehicles containing corrected information relative to proper tire, wheel, and recommended inflation pressure. DaimlerChrysler expects to initiate national notification to both dealers and owners in February, 2004.

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. To ensure consistency, DaimlerChrysler Corporation, as part of the owner letter, will request that customers send original receipt and/or other adequate proof of payment to the company for confirmation of the expense.