

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

04V-099 ① of ④

DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC

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via Fax (202-366-7882), 4 Pages
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49 CFR 573.6 Noncompliance Information Report

To: George Person
Office of Defects Investigation, Room 5326
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, SW (NSA-01)
Washington, DC 20590

From: DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC
8936 NorthPointe Executive Drive, Suite 200
Huntersville, NC 28078

Date: February 25, 2004

Attached is the following **49 CFR 573.6 Noncompliance Information Report**:

1. **Certain Model Year 2004 Cargo Sprinters Equipped with an Option for Retrofitting with a Partition Wall**

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC

SENT VIA Fax and FedEx

February 25, 2004

Kenneth N. Weinstein, Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
 400 Seventh Street, S.W. (NSA-01)
 Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Part 573 Noncompliance Information Report

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

This letter is submitted by DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC (DCMI) on behalf of our parent company, DaimlerChrysler AG (DCAG) pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 573. Specifically, this report advises you of a potential noncompliance in certain model year 2004 cargo Sprinter vehicles, equipped with an option for retrofitting with a partition wall.

573.6(c)(1): Manufacturer's Name

DaimlerChrysler AG, Stuttgart, Germany

Designated Agent: Wolf-Dieter Kleimeier
 DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC
 8936 NorthPointe Executive Drive
 Huntersville, NC 28078
 Tel: 704-655-1050
 Fax: 704-655-1055

573.6(c)(2): Identification of Vehicles

Make	Model/Type	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Sprinter	C2500 and C3500	2004	October 2003 through December 2003

The affected vehicle population was identified through an analysis of the production records for vehicles produced with the option for retrofit of a partition wall.

573.6(c)(3): Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Noncompliance

Approximately 108 vehicles are potentially affected. These "subject vehicles" are those MY 2004 cargo Sprinter vehicles ordered with option D62, i.e., "Preparation for Retrofitting Partition Wall", and produced between October and December 2003, which in some cases, may not have had certain roof foam inserts installed at the vehicle assembly plant.

573.6(c)(4): Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Noncompliance

Unknown

573.6(c)(5): Description of Noncompliance

DCAG has determined that some "subject vehicles" may not have had certain foam inserts installed on the interior roof during the assembly process as designed and certified. These foam inserts are required for compliance with FMVSS No. 201. The part numbers of these roof foam inserts for appropriate vehicle combinations are:

<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Left/Right</u>	<u>Roof Configuration</u>
A901 695 16 73	Left	High
A901 695 15 73	Right	High
A901 695 20 73	Left	Standard
A901 695 23 73	Right	Standard

573.6(c)(7): Basis for Determination of Noncompliance

A Quality Control inspection conducted at the Sprinter Re-Assembly plant in Gaffney, SC, found 2 vehicles without the aforementioned roof foam inserts installed. Following an investigation in both Germany and the U.S., DCAG management made a decision on February 18, 2004 to inspect all potentially affected "subject vehicles" produced since October 1, 2003 when the "subject vehicles" started its production in Germany, through the release of the "subject vehicles" from the Sprinter Re-Assembly plant in Gaffney, SC on January 7, 2004 to determine whether the roof foam inserts were properly installed. All 108 "subject vehicles" already delivered to dealers are included in the campaign remedy plan described below.

573.6(c)(8): Remedy Program

DCAG, through its DaimlerChrysler Corporation (DCC), will conduct a voluntary recall campaign for all subject Sprinter vehicles. The recall will be conducted in order to inspect, and if found missing, install the appropriate roof foam inserts without charge to all owners of the subject vehicles.

Because all subject vehicles are still within their warranty time period, there should not be any owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall prior to the recall.

DCC will provide the dates when it will begin, as well as when it will complete sending notifications to owners that there is a safety-related noncompliance and that a remedy without charge will be available, as soon as they are determined.

573.6(c)(9): Copies of Communications with Dealers or Purchasers

A copy will be provided by DCC when available.

573.6(c)(10): Copies of Proposed Owner Notification Letter

A copy will be provided by DCC when available.

573.6(c)(11): Manufacturer's Campaign Identification Number

Recall Campaign Identification Number assigned by DCC is D12.

If you or your staffs have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 704-655-1050 or Richard Shyu of my staff at 704-655-1052.

Sincerely,



Wolf-Dieter Kleimenter, Executive Vice President and COO
Engineering and Compliance
DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC
8936 NorthPointe Executive Drive
Huntersville, NC 28078