DAIMLERCHRYSLER

04V-112 ①of③

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

March 2, 2004

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

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 some 2004 model year Jeep Grand Cherokee vehicles equipped with 4.0L engines. The crankshaft position sensor wiring insulation may crack and expose the wire. In the presence of moisture, this may result in sensor malfunction, which could cause the engine to stall.

DaimlerChrysler Corporation will conduct a voluntary safety recall to install a new crankshaft position sensor on affected vehicles.

Sincerely,

for Stephan J. Speth

Enclosures: Defect Information Report for DaimlerChrysler Corporation Recall # D13

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

RECEIVED
NHTSA-215
2004 MAR -4 A 9:46
OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

DaimlerChrysler Corporation
800 Chrysler Drive CIMS 482-00-91
Auburn Hills MI USA 48326-2757

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER RECALL # D13

Submission date: March 2, 2004

04V-112 ②of ③

Identifying classification of vehicles potentially affected:

Make	Model	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture	Volume	Other
Jeep	Grand Cherokee	2004	12/16/2003-2/7/2004	14,621 (est)	with 4.0L engine

Estimated percentage containing defect: 30%

Description of defect:

The crankshaft position sensor wiring insulation may crack and expose the wire. In the presence of moisture, this may result in sensor malfunction, which could cause the engine to stall.

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

American Electronic Components, Inc.
23590 County Road 6
Elkhart, Indiana 46514
(574) 264-1116

The following chronology of principal events occurred between late January 2004 and late February 2004 and led to the determination of a defect:

- On January 29th, 2004, an operator at the crankshaft position sensor supplier, American Electronic Components (AEC), found cracks in the insulation of the sensor wiring. AEC sorted parts and found approximately 20% of the sensor wires with cracked insulation. The suspect parts were from a December manufactured lot of wire.
- On January 30th, 2004, AEC and the wire supplier performed testing of the December lot and an older lot for comparison. The testing showed the older lot passed with no cracking, while the December lot contained the potential for cracking.
- On February 2nd, 2004, the wire supplier notified AEC that the formulation for the insulation had been changed during the manufacture of the December lot of wire.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER RECALL # D13
Page 2

- On February 3rd, 2004, AEC informed DaimlerChrysler Corporation of the crankshaft position sensor wiring insulation cracking potential. DaimlerChrysler Corporation stopped shipment and contained all vehicles built with the suspect sensor.
- On February 6th, 2004 AEC received wire from the wire supplier using the old insulation formulation material to implement as a permanent resolution.
- On February 16th, 2004 replacement of the crankshaft position sensor on the contained vehicles was initiated. A survey of the first 300 of these vehicles established that approximately 30% of the sensors manufactured with the December lot of wire may be susceptible to this cracking condition.
- There are no known field inputs for this condition.
- This data was presented to the Vehicle Regulations Committee who decided on February 24th, 2004 to conduct a safety recall to repair affected vehicles.

Statement of measures to be taken to correct defect:

DaimlerChrysler Corporation will replace the crankshaft position sensor on all affected vehicles with a new part manufactured with the proper wire insulation. DaimlerChrysler expects to initiate national notification to both dealers and owners when a sufficient quantity of parts 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. 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.