

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

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

March 1, 2005

Ms. Kathleen C. DeMeter, Director
Acting Associate Administrator, Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

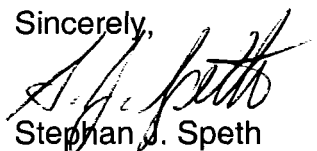
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(3 pages)

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Dear Ms. DeMeter:

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 2005 model year Chrysler Pacifica vehicles equipped with halogen headlamps. The halogen headlamps may experience an intermittent and eventual total loss of headlamp function as a result of an incorrect terminal in the headlamp wire harness. DaimlerChrysler Corporation will conduct a voluntary safety recall to inspect, and replace if necessary, the headlamp wire harness assembly and low beam head lamp bulbs.

Sincerely,



Stephan J. Speth

Enclosures: Defect Information Report for DaimlerChrysler Corporation Recall E04

cc: Division of Occupational Safety & Health
California Department of Industrial Relations

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER RECALL E04

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Submission date: March 1, 2005

Identifying classification of vehicles potentially affected:

Make	Model	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture	Vehicle Volume	Other
Chrysler	Pacifica	2005	07/01/2004-01/31/2005	43,180 (estimated)	With Halogen Headlamps

Estimated percentage containing defect: Unknown

Description of defect:

Vehicles equipped with halogen headlamps may experience an intermittent and eventual total loss of headlamp function.

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

Hella Lighting Corp.
7979 Park Place Road
York, SC 29745
(734) 414-0939

The following chronology of principal events occurred between November, 2004 and February, 2005 and led to the determination of a defect:

- In mid-November, 2004, an increase in warranty claims was detected for headlamp related issues on 2005 model year Chrysler Pacifica vehicles equipped with halogen headlamps. Many of the claims involved replacement of the bulb and/or headlamp assembly.
- In December, 2004, review of two vehicles with an inoperative halogen headlamp at the DaimlerChrysler Corporation's Product Quality Research Center revealed a loose terminal condition at the bulb assembly.
- In January, 2005, investigation revealed that the headlamp supplier, Hella, had changed wire harness suppliers in July, 2004. The new supplier built halogen headlamp wire harness assemblies using incorrect terminals.
- Initial testing by Hella at the time of the supplier change indicated that the assemblies with the incorrect terminals met performance and durability requirements. Therefore, Hella decided to utilize the terminals on an interim basis until the correctly specified terminals were implemented in mid-October, 2004.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER RECALL E04

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- Impact vibration testing completed in January and February, 2005, established that this issue may first appear as an intermittent condition, and may eventually lead to a total loss of electrical continuity to the bulb.
- Additional review in February, 2005, of headlamp assemblies returned through warranty retention revealed that a high percentage had a loose bulb as a result of having the incorrect terminal.
- In February, 2005, a review of traceability records established December 4, 2004 as the date when Hella had utilized all wire harness inventory with the incorrect terminal. Headlamp assembly inventory at the Chrysler Pacifica vehicle Windsor Assembly Plant was purged as of January 31, 2005.
- The headlamp warranty on vehicles equipped with halogen headlamps during the suspect period had reached a total of 1025 claims as of February 21, 2005.
- There are no reports of accidents or injuries related to this condition.
- This data was presented on February 22, 2005 to the Vehicle Regulations Committee who decided to conduct a safety recall to inspect and repair affected vehicles.

Statement of measures to be taken to correct defect:

DaimlerChrysler Corporation will inspect, and replace if necessary, the wiring harness and low beam bulb on both headlamp assemblies on the affected vehicle population. DaimlerChrysler Corporation expects to initiate national notification to both dealers and owners when a sufficient quantity of parts becomes available. DaimlerChrysler Corporation's scheduling information from 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.