

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

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

November 16, 2006

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

Dear Mr. Smith:

Reference: NHTSA Identification Number 06V-431

Enclosed are representative copies of communications relating to the 2007 model year vehicles involved in the referenced recall. DaimlerChrysler expects to notify dealers during the week of November 20, 2006 and to begin owner notification during the week of November 27, 2006. The exact number of manufactured vehicles in the recall is 4,350.

The involved Vehicle Identification Number range is:

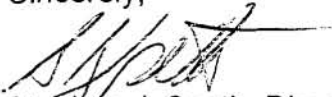
<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>
7N500001	7N517737

(VIN last eight characters) - 7 = 2007 model year; N = Sterling Heights Assembly Plant, Sterling Heights, Michigan; and the last six digits = sequential number.

We caution that the above range represents only the lowest and highest VIN sequential numbers included in the recall. This range cannot be used to determine conclusively that a vehicle is involved in the recall because most vehicles with a VIN within the range are not affected by the recall.

This completes DaimlerChrysler's package of information for this recall as required by the Defects Report Regulation.

Sincerely,



Stephan J. Speth, Director
Vehicle Compliance and Safety Affairs

Enclosure: Dealer and Owner Letter for Recall F45

cc: K.C. DeMeter

November 2006

Dealer Service Instructions for 8

2006 NOV 20 10 30 AM
DEPLOYMENT INVESTIGATION

Safety Recall F45 Hood Latch Striker

Models

2007 (JS) Chrysler Sebring

NOTE: This recall applies only to the above vehicles built through October 18, 2006 (MDH 101816).

IMPORTANT: Many of the vehicles within the above build period have already been inspected or repaired and, therefore, have been excluded from this recall.

IMPORTANT: Some of the involved vehicles may be in dealer new vehicle inventory. Federal law requires you to complete this recall service on these vehicles before retail delivery. Dealers should also consider this requirement to apply to used vehicle inventory and should perform this recall on vehicles in for service. Involved vehicles can be determined by using the VIP inquiry process.

Subject

The hood latch striker on about 4,300 of the above vehicles may break and allow the hood to open while driving. This could cause a crash without warning.

Repair

The hood latch striker must be replaced.

Parts Information

<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
CBA0F450	Striker, Hood Latch

Each dealer to whom vehicles in the recall were assigned will receive enough Hood Latch Striker Packages to service 100% of those vehicles.

Service Procedure

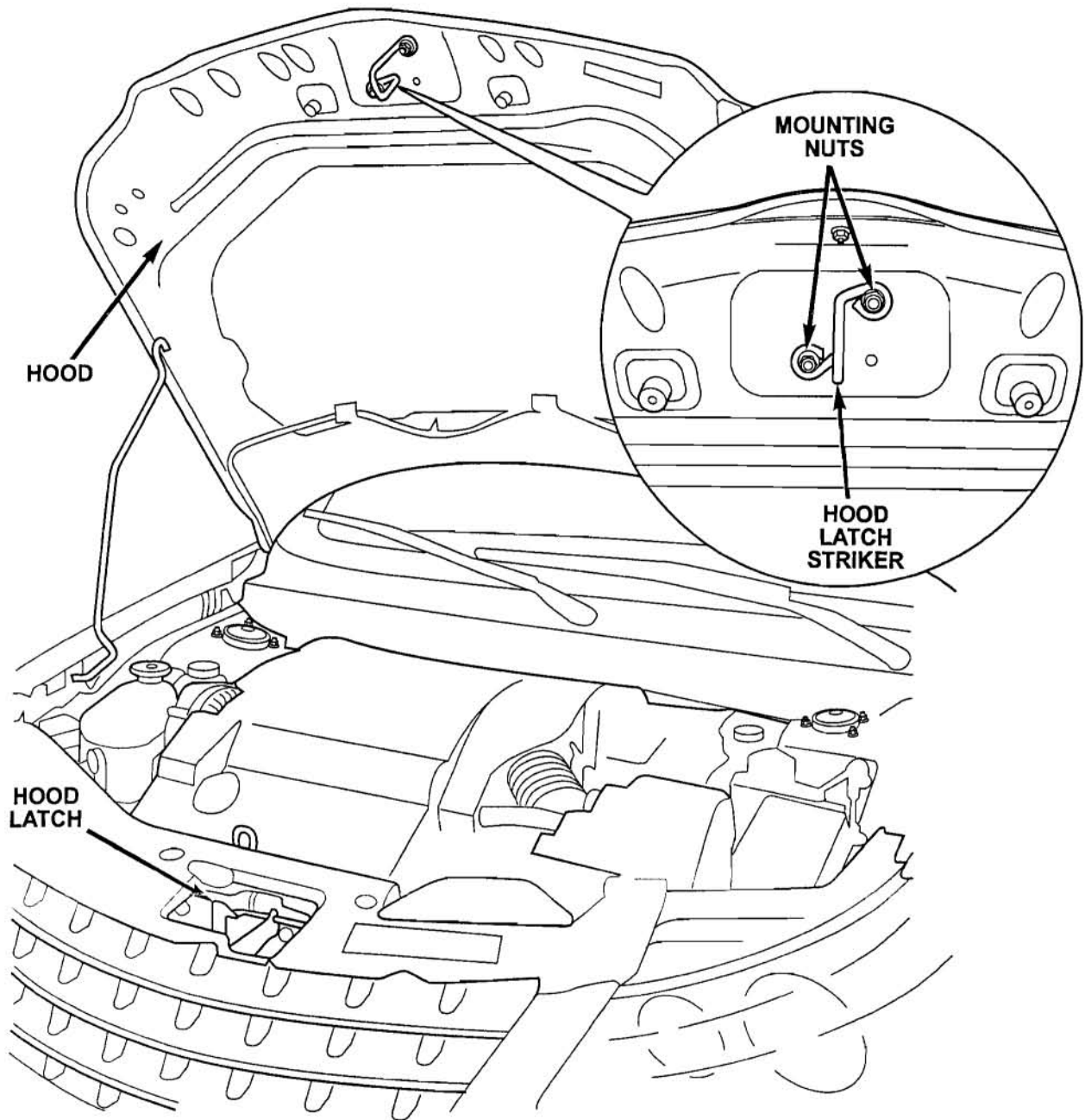


Figure 1

1. Open the hood.
2. Mark the hood latch striker location with a wax pencil.
3. Remove the two hood latch striker mounting nuts (Figure 1).
4. Remove and discard the original hood latch striker.

Service Procedure (Continued)

5. Place the new hood latch striker into position and loosely install the two hood latch striker mounting nuts.
6. Line up the striker to the reference marks made in Step 2 and tighten the mounting nuts to 80 in. lbs. (9 N·m).

CAUTION: The hood latch striker must be installed in the correct orientation. If installed backwards, the secondary hood latch will not engage when the primary hood latch is released.

7. Close the hood and verify hood adjustment. Adjust the hood latch if required.
8. Check the secondary hood latch function using the following procedure:
 - a. Close the hood completely.
 - b. Pull the inside hood release lever.
 - c. Attempt to open the hood without touching the secondary hood release lever.
 - d. The secondary latch should engage and prevent the hood from opening.
 - e. **If the secondary latch does not engage, the hood latch striker is installed backwards.** Remove the hood latch striker, rotate the striker 180 degrees and reinstall.
 - f. Recheck the secondary hood latch function.

Completion Reporting and Reimbursement

Claims for vehicles that have been serviced must be submitted on the DealerCONNECT Claim Entry Screen located on the Service tab. Claims submitted will be used by DaimlerChrysler to record recall service completions and provide dealer payments.

Use the following labor operation number and time allowance:

	Labor Operation Number	Time Allowance
Replace hood latch striker	23-F4-51-82	0.2 hours

Add the cost of the recall part plus applicable dealer allowance to your claim.

NOTE: See the Warranty Administration Manual, Recall Claim Processing Section, for complete recall claim processing instructions.

Dealer Notification

All dealers will receive three copies of this dealer recall notification letter by mail. To view this notification on DealerCONNECT, select “Global Recall System” on the Service tab, then click on the description of this notification.

Owner Notification and Service Scheduling

All involved vehicle owners known to DaimlerChrysler are being notified of the service requirement by first class mail. They are requested to schedule appointments for this service with their dealers. A generic copy of the owner letter is attached.

Enclosed with each owner letter is an Owner Notification postcard to allow owners to update our records if applicable.

Dealers are encouraged to consider alternative scheduling and servicing approaches for this recall. This repair does not require hoists or other full service facility special equipment and is a DaimlerChrysler Mobile Service approved repair.

Vehicle Lists, Global Recall System, VIP and Dealer Follow Up

All involved vehicles have been entered into the DealerCONNECT Global Recall System (GRS) and Vehicle Information Plus (VIP) for dealer inquiry as needed.

GRS provides involved dealers with an updated VIN list of their incomplete vehicles. The owner’s name, address and phone number are listed if known. Completed vehicles are removed from GRS within several days of repair claim submission.

To use this system, click on the “**Service**” tab and then click on “**Global Recall System.**” Your dealer’s VIN list for each recall displayed can be sorted by: those vehicles that were unsold at recall launch, those with a phone number, city, zip code, or VIN sequence.

Dealers must perform this repair on all unsold vehicles before retail delivery. Dealers should also use the VIN list to follow up with all owners to schedule appointments for this repair.

Recall VIN lists may contain confidential, restricted owner name and address information that was obtained from the Department of Motor Vehicles of various states. Use of this information is permitted for this recall only and is strictly prohibited from all other use.

Additional Information

If you have any questions or need assistance in completing this action, please contact your Service and Parts District Manager.

Customer Services Field Operations
DaimlerChrysler Corporation

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

SAFETY RECALL F45 – HOOD LATCH STRIKER

Dear: (Name)

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

DaimlerChrysler Corporation has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in some **2007 model year Chrysler Sebring vehicles.**

The problem is... **The hood latch striker on your vehicle (VIN: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx) may break and allow the hood to open while driving. This could cause a crash without warning.**

What your dealer will do... **DaimlerChrysler will repair your vehicle free of charge (parts and labor).** To do this, your dealer will replace the hood latch striker on your vehicle. The work will take about ½ hour to complete. However, additional time may be necessary depending on how dealer appointments are scheduled and processed.

What you must do to ensure your safety... Simply **contact your dealer** right away to schedule a service appointment. Ask the dealer to hold the part for your vehicle or to order it before your appointment. **Remember to bring this letter with you to your dealer.**

If you need help... If you have questions or concerns which your dealer is unable to resolve, please contact DaimlerChrysler at 1-800-853-1403.

Please help us update our records, by filling out the attached prepaid postcard, if any of the conditions listed on the card apply to you or your vehicle.

If you have already experienced this condition and have paid to have it repaired, you may send your original receipts and/or other adequate proof of payment to the following address for reimbursement: DaimlerChrysler P.O. Box 4639 Oak Ridge, TN 37831, Attention: Reimbursement.

If your dealer fails or is unable to remedy this defect without charge and within a reasonable time, you may submit a written complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590, or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We're sorry for any inconvenience, but we are sincerely concerned about your safety. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Customer Services Field Operations
DaimlerChrysler Corporation
Notification Code F45

*Buckle up
for Safety!*

Note to lessors receiving this recall: Federal regulation requires that you forward this recall notice to the lessee within 10 days.