



Accubuilt, Inc.
2550 Central Point Parkway
Lima, OH 45804

419.222.1501
419.222.4450 fax

Formerly S&S/Superior of Ohio, Inc

07V-042
(10 pages)

January 23, 2007

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

Dear Mr. Smith,

Pursuant to F49 CFR part 573, attached please find the documentation describing a recall of Accubuilt Inc. modified Chrysler 300 series Long Wheel Base vehicles, along with related owner and dealer notification drafts. Any questions related to the attached information may be directed to me at Accubuilt, Inc. as noted below and in the accompanying 573 document.

Stan Bucrek
VP Quality Assurance
Accubuilt, Inc.
2250 Central Point Parkway
Lima, OH 45807
419-998-8608

RECEIVED

2007 FEB -12 A 10:30

OFFICE OF DEFECTS
INVESTIGATION/RMD

PART 573 Defect **Report**

On, January 9th, 2007, Accubuilt, Inc. became aware of a potential issue which relates to motor vehicle safety as involves the item of motor vehicle equipment listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway **Traffic** Safety Administration in accordance with 49 **CFR Part** 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Report prepared: January 23, 2007

Manufacturer's identification code for this recall: jepi-000411

1. Full corporate name of the fabricating **manufacturer/brand name/trademark** owner of **the** recalled item of equipment:

Accubuilt Incorporated Modified Chrysler 300 series LWB vehicles modified, certified and shipped by Accubuilt from November 9th, 2006 through January 9th, 2007.

Corporate **official** whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall:

Stanley W. Bucrek

Vice President, Quality Assurance

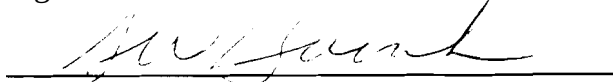
Telephone Number: 419-998-8608 Fax No.: 419-222-4450

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report:

Stanley W. Bucrek

Vice President, Quality Assurance

Signed:



I. Identify the Recalled Items of Equipment

2. Identify the Items of Equipment Involved in this Recall

Generic name of the item: Park Brake Cable

Make: Chrysler Model: 300-LWB

Part Number 96415439: Size: 3296 mm long

Function: Transfers force applied at the Park Brake pedal to the park brake assembly at the rear wheels.

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

This part number cable is 6" longer than the standard Chrysler 300 series vehicle cable. The **standard** 300 series Chrysler models are not affected or involved in this recall.

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured **by** your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents.

100% of Chrysler 300 LWB vehicles shipped by Accubuilt from November 9, 2006 through January 9, 2007

II. Identifying the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of items of equipment recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Model	Year	Other Equipment	Number of Items Potentially Involved
LWB 300 series	2007	with automatic transmission	69
Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall:			69

4. Approximate percentage of the total number of items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect: 20%

How the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled items of equipment: On January 9th, 2007. Two (2) out of Ten (10) vehicles evaluated from current and past production demonstrated that the park brake would not hold the vehicles under light to moderate throttle input. Further investigation revealed that the modified front park brake cable was causing tension loss in the park brake system. The modified cable, extended 6'' to accommodate the modified vehicle length, had a new inner strand, but a spliced outer sheath. The outer sheath splice may collapse under compressive load upon park brake actuation. The result of a collapsed sheath is a longer inner strand effective length, for which the self adjusting mechanism could not compensate, resulting in insufficient force applied to the park brake assembly at the rear wheels. Upon identification of the cable defect, all vehicles produced and not shipped were held on property and repaired with a new cable, made entirely from non-spliced stock. New cable performance was verified via FMVSS 135 park brake verification test. All vehicles shipped after January 9, 2007 contain the new cable. Vehicles shipped prior to January 10, 2007 will be recalled for a cable change.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

The defect is a park brake cable which contains a spliced outer sheath, elongated by (6) inches, Accubuilt part number 96415439.

The cable connects to the park brake pedal assembly at the left kick panel, left of the service brake pedal and runs rearward through the floor pan underneath the vehicle attached to the left side underbody, and connects to the rear cable assembly near the left side of the rear axle. The splice in the outer sheath is seen as a raised section of PVC, slightly larger than the cable diameter for a length of approximately 8 inches, located just forward of the "B" pillar (between the front and rear doors).

Describe the **cause(s)** of the defect or noncompliance condition.

The cause is a supplier modification and splicing process, which may fail to meet the compressive loads required to maintain cable tension. The spliced outer sheath may collapse under compressive load.

Describe the **consequence(s)** of the defect or noncompliance condition.

Inadequate tension on the rear park brake assembly, which could result in a failure to adequately hold the vehicle.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

After several cycles, the park brake pedal may travel all the way to the floor with less resistance than felt in previous applies.

If the defect is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

Dayton Clutch and Joint
2005 Troy St.
Dayton, Ohio
45404

Name and title of the chief executive officer:

Keith Knight
President

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect.

On January 9th, 2007, two (2) vehicles audited by final inspection from current production demonstrated that the park brake would not hold the vehicles under light to moderate throttle input. This defect was then noted on the final inspection documents for correction. Eight additional current and past production vehicles were then checked and all (8) held under a similar load condition. Further investigation, via an informal park brake and cable assembly bench test, revealed that the modified front park brake cable was causing tension loss in the park brake system. The modified cable, extended 6'' to accommodate the modified vehicle length, had a new inner strand, but a spliced outer sheath. The outer sheath splice may collapse under compressive load upon repeated park brake actuation. The result of a collapsed sheath is a longer inner strand effective length, for which the self adjusting mechanism could not fully compensate, resulting in insufficient force applied to the park brake assembly at the rear wheels. While investigation was ongoing, on January 9th, all vehicles produced and not shipped were held on property. New cables made entirely from non-spliced stock, from the same source as the OEM cable, were received on January 18, 2007. One was bench tested as before and there was no compressive deformation or any other issues. A second cable from the same production lot was installed in a vehicle and the new cable performance was verified via FMVSS 135 park brake verification. test on January 19. All vehicles on Accubuilt property were then refitted with the new cables and each of the (30) vehicles was inspected for brake performance. Vehicles shipped prior to January 10, 2007 will be recalled for a cable change. Accubuilt began shipping vehicles with the new cable on January 20, 2007.

7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.

N/A

V. Identify the Remedy

8. Description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect and differences between the recall condition and the remedy:

The remedy is to replace the old cable with the new part number cable.

The new cable holds tension, enabling the park brake system to hold the vehicle as required. The recalled cable will not always transmit adequate tension to adequately hold the vehicle.

Distinguishing characteristics of the remedy **component/assembly** versus the recalled **component/assembly**:

The remedy cable has a one piece, continuous outer sheath, whereas the recalled cable has a splice near the middle section of the cable. The remedy component has a ring of green tape just forward of the former splice location on the recall cable.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

The production correction is the same as the recall correction.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, **dealers/retailers**, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

Send dealer notification letter to 31 dealers to whom the (69) cars were delivered. – February 1, 2007.

Send parts to dealers of all (69) vehicles February 1, 2007

Send owner letters to (11) sold vehicle owners February 2, 2007

Tracking and follow up calls to dealers regarding uncompleted recalls February 9, 16, and 23.

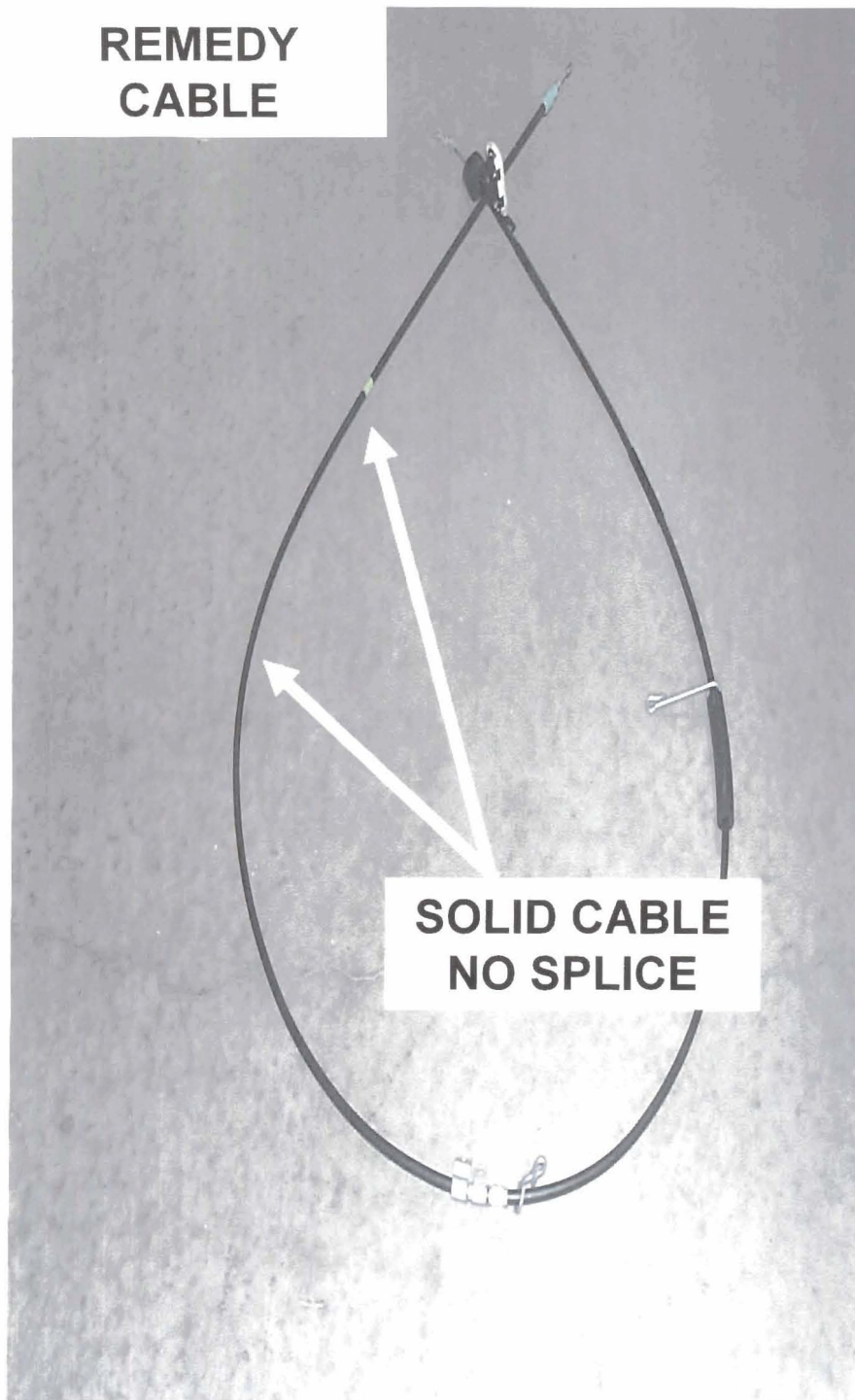
VII. Furnish Recall Communications

9. DRAFT copy of dealer and owner notification letters:

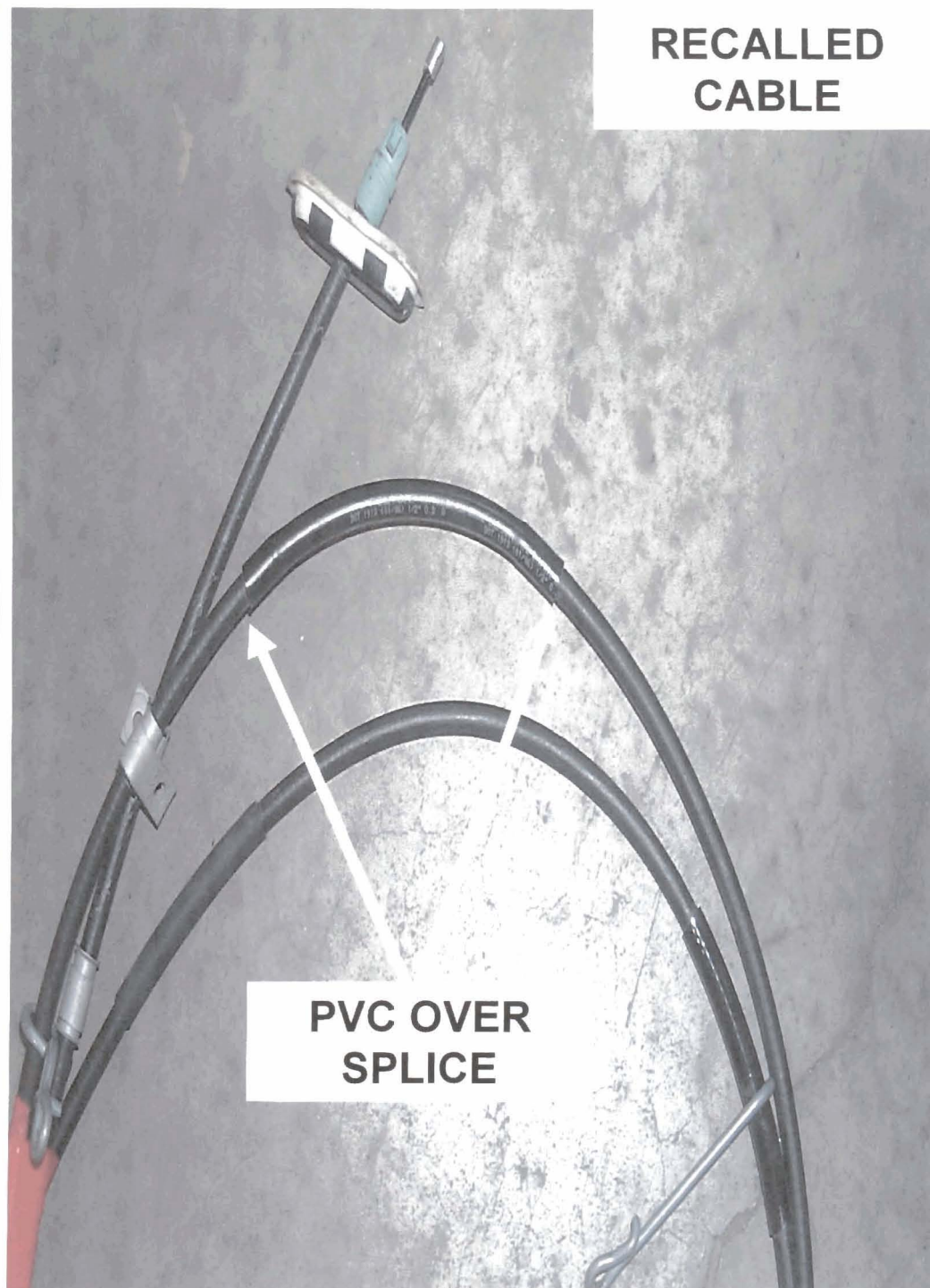
Owner letter attached.

Dealer notification letter attached.

**REMEDY
CABLE**



**RECALLED
CABLE**



January 29, 2007

To: All Chrysler Long Wheelbase Executive 300 Dealers

Subject: Accubuilt Safety Recall # 07-001

Models: 2007 Accubuilt LWB 300 Executive Sedans

DURING ROUTINE INSPECTION ACCUBUILT (A Specialty Manufacturer of the LWB 300 Executive Sedans) IDENTIFIED A CONDITION WHEREBY THE PARK BRAKE LOSES TENSION. SHOULD THIS OCCUR THE PARK BRAKE WOULD NOT SET PROPERLY.

CORRECTION:

REPLACE THE PARK BRAKE CABLE WITH ACCUBUILT P/N **96415852**. NEW PARK BRAKE CABLES AND INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN SUPPLIED FOR THE VEHICLES LISTED IN THIS LETTER. THE NEW CABLE WAS PUT INTO PRODUCTION AT ACCUBUILT ON 1/19/2007.

IMPORTANT: Some of the involved vehicles may still be in dealer inventory. Federal law requires you to complete the recall service on those vehicles before retail delivery.

COMPLETION REPORTING AND REIMBURSEMENT:

Claims for vehicles which have been serviced must be submitted. Claims submitted will be used by Accubuilt to record recall service completions and provide dealer payment, by credit card.

ACCUBUILT WILL AUTHORIZE 0.9 HOUR FOR THIS LABOR OPERATION (PARTS BEING PROVIDED). ONCE REPAIRS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED PLEASE FAX COMPLETED REPAIR ORDER TO ACCUBUILT WARRANTY ADMINISTRATOR **INCLUDING THE VEHICLE VIN NUMBER.**

Scot M. Andrews
Warranty Administrator
2550 Central Point Parkway
Lima, OH 45804
(419) 998-8618 Direct Phone
(888) 324-7895 Toll Free
(419) 222-4450 Fax
sandrews@accubuilt.com

UPON RECEIPT OF THE COMPLETED REPAIR ORDER ACCUBUILT WILL CONTACT CHRYSLER DEALERSHIP WITH CREDIT CARD PAYMENT WITHIN 48 HOURS.

DEALER NOTIFICATION & VEHICLE LIST:

Involved dealers: each dealer to whom involved vehicles were invoiced will receive a copy of this Dealer Recall Notification letter and a list of the involved vehicles by First Class Mail. Dealers who are not the selling dealer, but whom owners intend to utilize, will also be provided parts and this notification in order to satisfy those owners.

The Vehicle List is arranged in Vehicle Identification Number sequence. Owners known to Accubuilt are also listed. If dealers have delivered any of the units listed below, please forward owner information to the Warranty Administrator address above so that we may send them an owner letter. The lists are for dealer reference in arranging for service of involved vehicles.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Every effort must be made to promptly schedule an appointment with each owner and to repair their vehicle as soon as possible. If the condition is not remedied within a reasonable time, owners are instructed on how to contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



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2550 Central Point Parkway
Lima, OH 45804

419.222.1501
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Formerly S&S/Superior of Ohio, Inc

January 29, 2007

Dear Walter P. Chrysler Executive Series 300 Sedan Owner:

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

REASON FOR THIS RECALL

Accubuilt, Inc. has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2007 model year Chrysler LWB 300 Executive Sedans. These vehicles have a park brake cable that could lose tension. Should this park brake cable fail, the park brake will not adequately hold the vehicle in all circumstances.

WHAT WE WILL DO

To correct this issue your Chrysler Dealer will replace the park brake cable. The labor and material to complete this change will be covered under your Accubuilt warranty.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

Please contact your Chrysler dealer as soon as possible to arrange a service date and so the dealer may order the necessary parts for the repair. Instructions for making this correction have been sent to your dealer and the parts are available. The labor time necessary to perform this service correction is approximately one hour. Please ask your dealer if you wish to know how much additional time will be needed to schedule and process your vehicle.

Your Chrysler dealer is best equipped to obtain parts and provide service to ensure that your vehicle is corrected as promptly as possible. If, however, you take your vehicle to your dealer on the agreed service date, and they do not remedy this condition on that date or within (3) days, we recommend you to contact the Accubuilt Warranty Administrator (Scot Andrews) by calling 1-800-324-7895 or direct (419) 998-8618.

The Leading Manufacturer of Specialty Vehicles.





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If after contacting your dealer and Accubuilt, Inc. you are still not able to have the safety defect remedied without charge and within a reasonable time, you may wish to write the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590 or call 1-888-DASH-2-DOT (1-888-327-4236). (Washington DC residents use 1-202-366-0123).

If you have sold or traded your vehicle, please let us know. We ask that you contact the Accubuilt Warranty Administrator below.

We are **sorry** to cause this inconvenience; however, we have taken this action in the interest of your safety and continued satisfaction with our products.

Scot M. Andrews
Warranty Administrator
2550 Central Point Parkway
Lima, OH 45804
(419) 998-8618 Direct Phone
(888) 324-7895 Toll Free
(419) 222-4450 Fax
sandrews@accubuilt.com

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