

RECEIVED

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

2007 MAR 9

RECALL MANAGEMENT DIVISION

DaimlerChrysler Corporation

Stephan J. Speth

Director

Vehicle Compliance & Safety Affairs

March 6, 2007

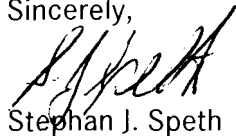
Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator of Enforcement, Office of Vehicle Safety
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

07V-089
(3 pages)

Dear Mr. Smith:

Attached is DaimlerChrysler Corporation's (DCC'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 2006 and 2007 model year Jeep Liberty vehicles. Under certain operating conditions, the HVAC blower motor may overheat and could potentially cause a fire. DCC will conduct a safety recall to replace the motor on all affected vehicles.

Sincerely,



Stephan J. Speth

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for DaimlerChrysler Corporation Recall G03

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

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER CORPORATION RECALL G03

Page 2

- Testing throughout the fall of 2006 indicated that the increased voltage, coupled with certain positions of the blower speed control, could cause the HVAC blower motor to turn faster than desired and lead to excessive brush heat. If this were to occur the blower wheel could move and impede airflow. Internal motor temperature could then escalate and distort the brush card, and if this were to occur, the brush springs could contact the motor armature and can cause sparking and the potential for fire.
- No reports of fire potentially related to this condition have been received since September 25, 2006. Additional analysis throughout the fall of 2006 and into early 2007 determined that driving at higher vehicle speeds with the windows open and the HVAC blower motor at high speed can contribute to the potential for this condition.
- The company is aware of twelve reports of 2006 model year Jeep Liberty interior fires that may be related to this issue.
- This information was presented to the Vehicle Regulations Committee on February 27, 2007, who decided to conduct a safety recall to replace the HVAC blower motors.

Statement of measures to be taken to correct defect:

DCC will replace the HVAC blower motor on all affected vehicles. DCC expects to begin national notification to both dealers and to owners in May of 2007.

DCC has a long-standing 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, DCC, 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.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER CORPORATION RECALL G03

Page 1

Submission date: March 6, 2007

Identifying classification of vehicles potentially affected:

Make	Model	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture	Volume
Jeep	Liberty	2006-2007	2/15/05 through 8/15/06	149,605 (estimated)

Estimated percentage containing defect: 100%

Description of defect:

Under certain operating conditions the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) blower motor may overheat and cause an interior fire.

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

Valeo, Inc.
4100 North Atlantic Blvd.
Auburn Hills, MI 48326
248-209-8253

The following chronology of principal events occurred between May of 2006 and February of 2007 and led to the determination of a defect:

- Between May and August of 2006, DCC became aware of a small number of Jeep Liberty interior fires. Preliminary review indicated these fires appeared to originate in the passenger side of the instrument panel.
- As a part of the analysis, it was noted that some Jeep Liberty Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) blower motors showed evidence of thermal stress.
- Testing of the HVAC motor in the vehicle configuration showed an unexpected change in available blower motor voltage. It was postulated that this higher voltage could allow a higher motor speed, higher wattage consumption and the potential for associated thermal stress.
- As a precautionary measure, the Jeep Liberty HVAC blower motor was revised to include an internal thermal switch and a 13 turn armature winding to regulate motor speed.
- As the investigation continued into the fall of 2006, it was determined that for the 2006 model year a vehicle charging profile change had been implemented. This change could have resulted in increased voltage to the HVAC system.
- In November of 2006, NHTSA opened Preliminary Evaluation PE06-056 to investigate reports of passenger side dash fires in 2006 model year Jeep Liberty vehicles.