

October 7, 2008

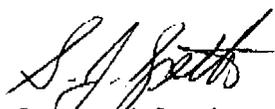
Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
West Building, Fourth Floor
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

Attached is Chrysler LLC's ("Chrysler") 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 a small number of 2007 and 2008 model year Dodge Nitro and 2008 Jeep Liberty vehicles equipped with a manual transmission. The park brake lever clutch drum may distort and reduce the effectiveness of the park brake system.

Chrysler will conduct a safety recall to replace the park brake lever assembly on all affected vehicles.

Sincerely,


Stephan J. Speth

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for Chrysler Recall H28

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

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2008 OCTOBER 8 - 1:30 PM
OFFICE OF RECALL
MANAGEMENT DIVISION

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER LLC RECALL H28

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Submission date: October 7, 2008

Identifying classification of vehicles potentially affected:

Make	Model	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture	Volume (estimated)	Other
Dodge	Nitro	2007-2008	5/30/2006 - 2/15/2008	2,483 (estimated)	With manual transmission only
Jeep	Liberty	2008	5/14/2007 - 2/15/2008	1,180 (estimated)	

Estimated percentage containing defect: 100%

Description of defect:

The park brake lever clutch drum may distort and reduce the effectiveness of the park brake system. This could allow the vehicle to move inadvertently and cause a crash without warning.

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

KTM Locks
141 Staffern Drive
Concord, Ontario, Canada L4K 2R2
248-567-5230

The following chronology of principal events led to the determination of a defect:

- During a review of 2007 model year Dodge Nitro park brake lever warranty part returns, a small amount of self adjusting clutch drum wall distortion was observed.
- In February of 2007 a clutch drum wall thickness increase had been implemented into vehicle production.
- In July of 2007 detailed analysis of additional warranty return parts found that all exhibiting clutch drum wall distortion were built prior to the wall thickness increase.
- In the course of subsequent analysis, a small number of warranty return parts with the increased wall thickness clutch drum were found to still exhibit some level of distortion.
- Laboratory testing of the thick wall parts indicated that clutch drum wall distortion occurred at 180 pounds park brake lever input load.
- Successful testing of thick wall clutch drums with a higher yield strength material was completed and in February of 2008, this higher yield strength material was implemented concurrent with a two degree increase in the lever angular travel, for the Dodge Nitro along with the Jeep Liberty. The Jeep Liberty began utilizing the same park brake lever design for

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the 2008 model year.

- Field data monitoring continued throughout 2008. As of September of 2008, Chrysler was aware of 24 total reports alleging various degrees of reduced effectiveness of the park brake system, including one report alleging a vehicle crash due to inadvertent vehicle movement.
- All these reports are for manual transmission equipped vehicles with park brake systems built prior to February of 2008.
- This data was presented to the Chrysler Vehicle Regulations Committee on September 30, 2008 who decided to conduct a safety recall.

Statement of measures to be taken to correct defect:

Chrysler will replace the park brake lever assembly on all affected vehicles equipped with manual transmissions. Chrysler expects to initiate national notification to dealers and owners in October of 2008.

Chrysler 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, Chrysler, 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.