



08V-528
(3 Pages)

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 2009 model year Dodge Journey, Avenger and Caliber, Chrysler Sebring, and Jeep Compass and Patriot vehicles. A broken solder joint on the printed circuit board of the Powertrain Control Module (PCM) can affect fuel pump relay performance potentially resulting in an engine stall while driving and/or no start condition.

Chrysler will conduct a safety recall to replace the PCM on all affected vehicles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. K. Speth".

Stephan K. Speth

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for Chrysler Recall H33

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

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OFFICE OF RECALL
MANAGEMENT DIVISION

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER LLC RECALL H33

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Submission date: October 7, 2008

Identifying classification of vehicles potentially affected:

Make	Model	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture	Volume
Dodge	Caliber, Avenger, Journey	2009	7/10/2008 through 8/26/2008	712 (estimated)
Jeep	Patriot, Compass			
Chrysler	Sebring			

Estimated percentage containing defect: 100%

Description of defect:

A new adhesive used in the Powertrain Control Module manufacturing process can cause the printed circuit board to break. This can cause the engine to stall and cause a crash without warning.

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

Continental
100 Electronics Blvd.
Huntsville, AL 35824
256-464-1614

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

- During a review at Chrysler's Belvidere (IL) Assembly Plant on August 14, 2008, five vehicles experienced a no start condition. Initial investigation determined the no start condition to be caused by the Powertrain Control Module (PCM).
- Further analysis of the PCM determined that the internal printed circuit board had a cracked solder joint at the fuel pump relay which resulted in the no start condition.
- It was subsequently identified that the cracked solder joint was caused by a processing issue during PCM manufacturing. In July of 2008 a change was made to the adhesive used to attach the printed circuit board to the module housing. During module assembly, excessive processing time could lead to hardening of the material prior to final assembly, which could result in pressure on the printed circuit board and a cracked solder joint at the fuel pump relay.

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- Manufacturing controls were added during PCM manufacturing to prevent this excessive processing time.
- Through a review of supplier manufacturing records, the PCMs manufactured with excessive processing time were able to be identified and traced to a specific vehicle. Additional analysis in August and September of 2008 determined that this condition could also create the potential for a vehicle stall while driving.
- Chrysler is aware of 31 reports of engine stall and/or no start attributable to this condition.
- 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 PCM on all affected vehicles. Chrysler expects to initiate national notification to dealers and owners in October of 2008.

Chrysler 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, 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.
