



February 3, 2009

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 some 2009 model year Chrysler Town & Country and Dodge Grand Caravan vehicles. The vehicles were manufactured with an unused electrical connector for the blind spot detection system. These connectors may become corroded and could short circuit, affecting operation of the compass display, rear heater / air conditioner, door courtesy lamps and integral flashlight. If the fuse for this circuit does not blow, the connector could overheat and potentially catch fire.

Chrysler will conduct a safety recall to seal the power circuit at the subject connector, and replace the fuse for this circuit if necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lawrence J. Sak". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Lawrence J. Sak

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for Chrysler Recall J01

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

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER LLC RECALL J01

Page 1

Submission Date: February 3, 2009**Identifying classification of vehicles potentially affected:**

Make	Model	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture	Volume
Chrysler	Town & Country	2009	June 23, 2008 - December 16, 2008	13,350 (estimated)
Dodge	Grand Caravan			

Estimated percentage containing defect: 100%**Description of defect:**

Unused electrical connectors for the blind spot detection system may become corroded and could short circuit, which can cause a variety of conditions. If the fuse for this circuit does not blow, the connector could overheat and potentially catch fire.

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

- In December of 2008, Chrysler received several reports of 2009 model year minivans with non functioning compass displays.
- Investigation determined that for the 2009 model year Chrysler Town & Country and Dodge Grand Caravan vehicles, a 12 volt ignition fed power and ground circuit was added to some body wiring harness configurations for the new blind spot detection system.
- To reduce the number of build combinations in the vehicle assembly plant, some vehicles received wire harnesses with the blind spot detection system connector, even though they do not have the feature. This unused connector was not capped, which resulted in wiring harnesses that terminated in the right rear wheel well area, in front of the rear fascia, with an open connector.
- This results in potential for contamination and corrosion to occur in the open connector, which can bridge circuit to ground and blow fuse affecting the compass display, rear heat / air conditioner blower, door courtesy lamps and integral flashlight features.
- Additional investigation determined that if the fuse does not blow, potential exists for the connector to overheat and possibly catch fire.
- A review of available field reports showed 29 reports of inoperative compass displays and 7 conditions of melted connectors in the subject vehicles. In two of these reports, evidence indicates the presence of localized flames at the connector.
- Chrysler is not aware of any injuries, fatalities or property damage result from this condition.
- This data was presented to the Chrysler Vehicle Regulations Committee on January 27, 2009 who decided to conduct a safety recall.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER LLC RECALL J01

Page 2

Statement of measures to be taken to correct defect:

Chrysler will conduct a safety recall to seal the power circuit at the subject connector, and replace the fuse for this circuit if necessary. Chrysler expects to initiate national notification to both dealers and owners in February of 2009.

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.