



March 3, 2010

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 Group 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 2010 model year Jeep Commander and Grand Cherokee vehicles.

Chrysler will conduct a voluntary safety recall to inspect the rear track bar bushing retaining hoop positions and replace the rear track bar assembly if any are found to be mis-positioned.

Sincerely, Junio D. Ditte

David D. Dillon

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for Chrysler Recall K05

cc: K.C. DeMeter, NHTSA

## **DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER GROUP LLC RECALL K05** Page 1

### Submission date: March 3, 2010

#### Identifying classification of vehicles potentially affected:

Make(s)	Model(s)	Model	Inclusive Dates of	Volume
		Year(s)	Manufacture	
Jeep	Commander /	2010	December 9, 2009 –	3,498
	Grand Cherokee		December 17, 2009	(estimated)

#### Estimated percentage containing defect: unknown

#### Description of defect:

A small percentage of the affected vehicles may have been built with an improperly manufactured rear track bar. The result of the defect could be noise and reduced vehicle stability.

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

Global Automotive Systems 721 East Edgerton Bryan, Ohio, 43508 419-630-2502

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

- The rear track bar assembly consists of a symmetrical tube with a rubber bushing on each end which is attached to the body and axle.
- The bushing retaining hoops are formed from flat steel, which are rolled into circles and loaded into an automated welding station by Global Automotive Systems (GAS).
- On December 18, 2009 a standard quality inspection at Jefferson North Assembly Plant (JNAP) identified the condition.
- The bushing retaining hoop had pulled open due to being improperly positioned in the welding fixture causing insufficient weld on one side of the seam.
- JNAP contained their shipping yard.
- There is one additional report of noise related to a pulled open bushing retaining hoop on an

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employee's vehicle.

- Chrysler Group, LLC has inspected track bars for this condition and believes this issue has an extremely low occurrence rate in the identified vehicle population.
- Chrysler Group, LLC is not aware of any accidents or injuries related to this issue.

## Statement of measures to be taken to correct defect:

Chrysler will conduct a voluntary safety recall to inspect the rear track bar bushing retaining hoop seam positions and replace the rear track bar if any are found to be mis-positioned. Chrysler expects to initiate national notification to both dealers and owners in April, 2010.

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.