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By Recall Management Division at 11:32 am, Jun 07, 2012

June 5, 2012

Ms. Nancy Lummen Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
Room: W48-302
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Attached is Chrysler Group LLC's ("Chrysler Group") *updated* 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 2004-2007 model year Jeep Liberty vehicles. *The update to the defect report is to the model year and volume of vehicles affected, chronology and timing for dealer and owner notification for the additional vehicles.*

Chrysler Group will conduct a voluntary safety recall to replace the rear lower control arms on all affected vehicles sold or currently registered in the NHTSA defined salt belt states.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David D. Dillon".

David D. Dillon

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for Chrysler Recall L27

cc: Frank Boris, NHTSA

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER GROUP LLC

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Submission Date: June 5, 2012

573.6(c)(1): Manufacturer's Name, Brand Name

Chrysler Group LLC, Jeep

573.6(c)(2): Identification of Affected Vehicles

Make(s)	Model(s)	Model Year(s)	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Jeep	Liberty	2004-2007	July 3, 2003 – June 29, 2007

573.6(c)(2)(iv): Component manufacturer name, address, telephone number, and country of origin:

Global Automotive Systems (now part of DURA Automotive Systems)
2791 Research Drive
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
(248) 626-4300
Country of Origin: USA

573.6(c)(3): Potentially Affected Vehicle Population

*An additional 137,176 (estimated) 2006-2007 MY Liberty Vehicles;
A total of 346,900 (estimated) 2004-2007 MY Liberty Vehicles*

573.6(c)(4): Percentage of Affected Vehicles

100% (approximate)

573.6(c)(5): Description of Defect or Noncompliance

Some vehicles may be equipped with rear lower control arms that can experience a rear suspension lower control arm fracture due to excessive corrosion resulting in reduced vehicle control.

573.6(c)(6): Chronology of Principal Events Leading to Determination of a Safety Defect

- On April 18, 2011 NHTSA opened a Preliminary Evaluation PE11-013 of 2002-2005 MY KJ vehicles based on 9 complaints of rear lower control arm fracture due to excessive corrosion.

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- The KJ utilizes a three link rear suspension system and the rear lower control arms primary function is to constrain the rear axle in the for/aft direction.
- The fracture of a rear lower control arm can result in a decrease in rear suspension stability.
- An investigation revealed a significant design change to the rear lower control arm starting with 2004 MY.
- The investigation also revealed that all inputs were limited to 2004-2005 MY KJ vehicles sold in NHTSA defined salt belt states.
- On Sept 15, 2011 NHTSA upgraded the investigation and opened Engineering Analysis EA11-013, focusing the scope on 2004-2005 MY vehicles in salt belt states.
- Subsequently, Chrysler conducted a field study which revealed no significant manufacturing variation existed in e-coat thickness during the 2004-2005 MY production period.
- In February of 2012, Chrysler presented to NHTSA the results of the 2004-2005 MY KJ rear lower control arm field study. *At the time, there were no 2006-2007 MY field inputs although there was sufficient time for the condition to have presented itself. As a result, it was agreed that the 2006-2007 MY vehicles would be monitored.*
- *Up to February 15, 2012, Chrysler Group LLC was aware of 83 inputs alleging rear control arm fracture for 2004-2005MY KJ vehicles.*
- *Chrysler Group LLC subsequently monitored the field data for the KJ 2006-2007 MY vehicles experiencing rear lower control arm failures due to corrosion. Since April 2012, Chrysler Group LLC has received 8 reports of this condition on KJ 2006 MY vehicles, all from salt-belt states.*
- Chrysler Group LLC is not aware of any accidents or injuries related to this issue.
- *This information was presented to the Vehicle Regulations Committee on May 29, 2012, which decided to expand the voluntary safety recall to include 2006-2007 MY vehicles.*

573.6(c)(7): Information Used in Determination of a Noncompliance

N/A

573.6(c)(8): Description of Remedy

Chrysler will conduct a voluntary safety recall to replace the rear lower control arms on all affected vehicles within NHTSA defined salt belt states.

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 the original receipt and/or other adequate proof of payment to the company for confirmation of the expense.

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573.6(c)(10): Dealer and Owner Communications

Chrysler began to notification of dealers and owners at the end of April, 2012 for 2004-2005 MY and plans to begin notification of dealers and owners of the additional vehicles by the end of June, 2012 for the this expansion to 2006-2007MY. Chrysler will provide the dealer and owner letters when available.

573.6(c)(11): Manufacturer's Campaign Number

Chrysler has assigned recall number L27 to this action.