



April 2, 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") Defect Information Report, complying with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, which contains details of a voluntary safety recall.

Sincerely,

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

David D. Dillon

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for Chrysler Recall

cc: Frank Borris, NHTSA

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER GROUP LLC RECALL

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Submission date: April 2, 2012

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

Chrysler Group LLC, Dodge, Chrysler

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

Make(s)	Model(s)	Model Year(s)	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Dodge	Grand Caravan	2012	November 15, 2011 – November 21, 2011
Chrysler	Town & Country	2012	November 15, 2011 – November 21, 2011

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

Schaeffler Group USA
1750 E. Big Beaver Rd
Troy, MI 48083
248-528-4808

Country of Origin: Canada

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

289 (estimated)

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

60% (approximately)

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

Some vehicles may be equipped with rear hub and bearing assemblies that have an incomplete machining operation, which could result in a decrease in extended mileage durability, which could eventually result in wheel separation.

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

- On November 22, 2011, Schaeffler Group notified Chrysler the machining operation on the hub radius of some hub and bearing assemblies was incomplete.
- On November 22, 2011, Windsor Assembly Plant held the yard and rear wheels were removed to inspect for the suspect bearing Julian dates.
- It was eventually determined that 207 suspect bearings were contained to 354 total vehicles (289 in the US), in the right rear wheel position.
- In December of 2011 and January of 2012, bench fatigue testing was conducted, in Germany, with both production intent and suspect bearing assemblies to determine if any effect on fatigue life could be determined.
- In February of 2012, test results from the German test stand were a factor of ten times greater when compared to historical test results from a test stand used in Canada, which was no longer available. Schaeffler Group was unable to determine the reason for the test life differences between the two test stands.
- In late-February of 2012, Chrysler Group LLC initiated a statistical analysis of the test data, which demonstrated an increase in hub flange rotational bending test life variation of the suspect parts.
- In March of 2012, although there was a conflict between the prior and current test stand results, some of the data from these tests and the results of the statistical test life variation analysis led to the conclusion that the incomplete machining operation could shorten the expected life cycle of the rear hub and bearing assembly.
- Chrysler Group LLC is not aware of any accidents or injuries related to this condition.
- This information was presented to the Vehicle Regulations Committee on March 26, 2012, which decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall on all affected vehicles.

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

N/A

573.6(c)(8): Description of Remedy

Chrysler Group, LLC will conduct a voluntary safety recall on all affected vehicles to replace the right rear hub and bearing assembly as required.

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 plans to begin notification of customers in April, 2012.

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

Chrysler has assigned recall number M13 to this action.