



May 1, 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") 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 2012 model year Dodge Grand Caravan and Chrysler Town & Country vehicles.

Chrysler Group will conduct a voluntary safety recall to inspect and replace the right side power liftgate pinch sensors as required on all affected vehicles.

Sincerely,

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

David D. Dillon

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for Chrysler Recall M17

cc: Frank Boris, NHTSA

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER GROUP LLC

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Submission Date: May 1, 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	Mar. 9, 2012 – Mar. 12, 2012
Chrysler	Town & Country	2012	Mar. 9, 2012 – Mar. 12, 2012

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

Dortec Industries (Division of Magna International)
581 Newpark Blvd, P.O. Box 357
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7
905-853-1800
Country of Origin: Canada

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

471 (estimated)

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

30% (approximate)

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

Some vehicles may contain right side liftgate pinch sensors that may not function as intended, resulting in an increase in force required to stop the power liftgate during its final closing stages, which could increase the risk of injury while operating the power liftgate.

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

- On March 9, 2012, in order to evaluate vehicle manufacturing feasibility of a proposed power liftgate pinch sensor, a trial run was conducted at the Chrysler Windsor Assembly Plant (WAP).
- All previous testing of the trial pinch sensor had been successful and had shown equivalent performance to the current production pinch sensor.
- On March 14, 2012, internal manufacturing audits discovered 3 vehicles with power liftgate pinch sensor efforts greater than the internal guideline and the yard was held at WAP.
- Examination of the liftgate pinch sensors demonstrated that all suspect vehicles were built with the trial pinch sensors. All of the current production pinch sensors functioned as intended.
- On March 14, 2012, a clean point was established at WAP with certified current production material and the vehicles held in the yard were inspected and retrofitted as required.
- An investigation determined that the root cause was due to different electrical resistance values of the trial pinch sensors, compared to previous sample parts. Chrysler was not made aware of the change in resistance values of the trial pinch sensors.
- All other remaining functions of the power liftgate obstacle detection system are unaffected.
- Chrysler Group LLC is not aware of any field inputs, accidents or injuries related to this condition.
- The affected vehicles will be serviced with current production sensors.
- This information was presented to the Vehicle Regulations Committee on April 24, 2012, which decided to conduct a safety recall.

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 inspect and replace as required the right side power liftgate pinch sensors on all affected vehicles.

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 dealers and owners in May 2012. Chrysler will provide the dealer and owner letters when available.

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

Chrysler has assigned recall number M17 to this action.