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By Recall Management Division at 11:10 am, Apr 03, 2013

13V-128
(3 pages)



CHRYSLER

April 3, 2013

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 vehicles.

Chrysler will conduct a voluntary safety recall on all affected vehicles to inspect the parking brake cable equalizer set and to re-set the cable equalizer if required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristin Kolodge".

Kristin J. Kolodge

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for Chrysler Group LLC. Recall N22

cc: Frank Borris, NHTSA

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER GROUP LLC

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Submission Date: April 3, 2013

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

Chrysler Group LLC, RAM

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

Make(s)	Model(s)	Model Year(s)	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
RAM	1500	2013	December 17, 2012 – January 22, 2013

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

Warren Truck Assembly Plant (WTAP)
Chrysler Group LLC
21500 Mound Road
Warren, MI 48091
(586) 497-3080
Country of origin: USA

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

6,574 (estimated)

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

4% (approximate)

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

Some vehicles may have the parking brake cable equalizer set incorrectly and may not be able to hold on 20% grade as specified in FMVSS 135 test procedure for the parking brake function.

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

- On 1/22/2013, a CPA auditor at WTAP noticed a cable slack condition for the parking brake. Plant established yard hold immediately.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER GROUP LLC

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- Initial inspection of 450 vehicles held at WTAP reveals a reject rate close to 4%. From all 17 units rejected in inspection, the results indicate the settings were short to the required specification.
- The root cause analysis identified the condition was built from its second shift operation.
- During the week of 2/4/2013, Brake Engineering conducted two separate evaluation events for parking brake output assessment.
- The evaluation revealed parking brake output was reduced at its worst known set condition and the vehicle does not meet FMVSS 135 requirements for parking brake function to hold on 20% grade.
- There are no CAIRs or VOQs and 6 field reports alleging improper parking brake function.
- Chrysler Group LLC is not aware of any accidents or injuries related to this issue.
- On March 26, 2013, Chrysler Group LLC decided to conduct the 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 will conduct a voluntary safety recall to inspect the parking brake cable equalizer set and to re-set the cable equalizer if 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.

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

Chrysler plans to begin notification of dealers and owners on April 12, 2013. Chrysler will provide the dealer and owner letters when available.

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

Chrysler has assigned recall number N22 to this action.