



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**National Highway Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

December 4, 2014

Mr. Phil Hartnagel  
Senior Manager Product Investigation and Campaigns  
Chrysler Group LLC  
800 Chrysler Drive  
CIMS 482-00-91  
Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2757

NVS-215SM  
14V-770

**Subject:** Passenger Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

Dear Mr. Hartnagel:

This letter serves to acknowledge Chrysler Group LLC's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

DODGE/RAM 1500/2003  
DODGE/RAM 2500/2003  
DODGE/RAM 3500/2003

**Mfr's Report Date:** December 3, 2014

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 14V-770

**Components:**  
AIR BAGS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 149,150

**Problem Description:**

Chrysler Group LLC (Chrysler) is recalling certain model year 2003 Dodge Ram 1500, 2500, and 3500 trucks manufactured June 20, 2002, to July 31, 2003 originally sold, or ever registered, in geographic locations associated with high absolute humidity. Specifically, vehicles sold, or ever registered, in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Saipan, Guam, and American Samoa are addressed by this recall. Upon deployment of the passenger side frontal air bag, excessive internal pressure may cause the inflator to rupture.

**Consequence:**

In the event of a crash necessitating deployment of the passenger side frontal air bag, the inflator could rupture with metal fragments striking and potentially seriously injuring the vehicle occupants.

**Remedy:**

Chrysler will notify owners, and dealers will replace the front passenger air bag inflator, free of charge. For vehicles that were sold, or are currently registered, in Florida, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, owners will be notified and the recall will begin on December 5, 2014. For all other vehicles, Chrysler will notify owners and the recall will begin on, or about, January 19, 2015. Owners may contact Chrysler customer service at 1-800-853-1403. Chrysler's number for this recall is P40 Expanded. Note: This recall partially supersedes recall 14V-354.

**Notes:**

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to [www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov).

This recall was the subject of a preliminary evaluation, PE14-016, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

This latest recall does not address all the frontal passenger side inflators that were addressed in Chrysler's earlier recall campaign 14V-354, Takata's defect information report for 14E-073, nor the agency's direct request to Chrysler. Please explain in detail, with all technical data necessary to support, Chrysler's decision.

We do understand that this recall will supersede, in part, safety recall 14V-354. Accordingly, please submit an amended defect information report (Part 573 report) to reduce the population in 14V-354 to remove the vehicles that are now being addressed through this recall.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Sarah Mcshane who may be reached by phone at 202-366-7401, or by email at [sarah.mcshane@dot.gov](mailto:sarah.mcshane@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement