

14V-101 (3 pages)

March 4, 2014

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:

The following information is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.6, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, which contains details of a safety defect in vehicles as determined by Chrysler Group LLC.

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

Chrysler Group LLC, Dodge

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

Make(s)	Model(s)	Model Year(s)	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Dodge	Charger	2011-2012	May 20, 2010 to
	Charge		November 8, 2011

The determination of the recall population is described in Section 573.6(c)(6).

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

Autosystems Div. Decoma Ext Trim-US 345 University Ave Belleville, ON K8N5T7 Canada 248-567-5303

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

43,452 (estimated)

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

Unknown

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

Some Dodge Charger vehicles may have been built with halogen front headlamps which contain jumper harnesses that overheat during operation resulting in the loss of low beam lighting. An investigation determined the bulbs in these headlamp assemblies may operate at a temperature up to 185 degrees Fahrenheit, which is in excess of the internal jumper harness connector material specification.

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

- In late August 2011, the Quality Engineering Center identified two returned Police vehicle headlamps with melted low beam connectors. The same week, a Field Engineer in Texas reported three more Police fleet vehicles with the same condition.
- Analysis of field data at that time indicated an increasing trend of Police vehicle field inputs.
- The suspect period conclusion date, for the affected Police vehicles, was established on November 8, 2011, at Brampton Assembly Plant.
- At the time of the initial proposal at the January 2012 VRC, Chrysler LLC was aware of 25 QNA field inputs on Police vehicles and was not aware of any accidents or injuries related to this condition.
- Voluntary Safety Recall M01 was approved at the January 2012 VRC replacing halogen headlamp jumper harnesses and bulbs of approximately 9,428 2011-2012 MY LD Police vehicles (9,032 US, 324 CAN, 202 MEX, 2 BUX) built between July 5, 2010 and December 20, 2011.
- In November, 2013, as a result of increased field inputs for non-Police vehicles, Product Investigations and Campaigns opened an investigation. It was later discovered the non-Police field data indicated trends similar to the Police vehicle field data.
- The investigation found the potential suspect population is non-Police vehicles equipped with halogen headlamps built between May 20, 2010, and November 8, 2011.
- As of February 20, 2014, Chrysler identified approximately 608 CAIRs, 72 VOQs, and 3 field reports related to this issue.

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- As of February 20, 2014, Chrysler is unaware of any accidents or injuries potentially related to this issue.
- On February 25, 2014 Chrysler determined, through the Vehicle Regulations Committee, to conduct a voluntary safety recall.

# 573.6(c)(8)(i): Description of Remedy

Chrysler will conduct a voluntary safety recall to replace the headlamp jumper harnesses and bulbs, or headlamp assemblies, as needed, 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.

## 573.6(c)(8)(ii): Dealer and Owner Communication

Chrysler estimates it will notify dealers and owners in April 2014.

## 573.6(c)(10): Submission of Recall Communications

Chrysler will provide representative copies of the dealer and owner letters to NHTSA's Recall Management Division when available.

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

Chrysler has assigned recall number P08 to this action.

Sincerely,

Kustin Kolady

Kristin J. Kolodge Product Investigations and Campaigns Senior Manager

cc: Frank Borris, NHTSA