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14V-438  
(3 pages)



July 18, 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, and contains details of a safety defect in vehicles as determined by Chrysler Group LLC ("Chrysler").

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

DaimlerChrysler Corporation, DaimlerChrysler Company LLC, Jeep

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

Make(s)	Model(s)	Model Year(s)	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Jeep	Grand Cherokee	2005 – 2007	02/11/2004 to 07/05/2007
Jeep	Commander	2006 – 2007	01/31/2005 to 07/05/2007

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:**

Methode Electronics, Inc. Golden  
1103 Prairie Mills Road  
Golden, IL 62339  
Country of Origin: USA  
Telephone Number: 217-919-0800

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

643,618 (estimated)

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

Unknown

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

Some Jeep Commander and Jeep Grand Cherokee vehicles may experience an unintended change in ignition switch position while driving which may result in loss of engine power, power steering, and braking assist increasing the risk of a crash and disabling one or more of the vehicle's safety features including the frontal airbags.

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

- On June 16, 2014 the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration ("NHTSA") opened PE 14-017 related to stalling events caused by the inadvertent movement of the ignition switch.
- On June 30, 2014 Chrysler received from the NHTSA an Information Request ("IR") with a partial response due date of July 14, 2014.
- Regulatory Affairs review of internal data (customer complaints) revealed approximately 101 unconfirmed reports (relating to 96 unique VINs) of unintended change in ignition switch position while driving, resulting in engine shut off.
- A preliminary assessment of the data indicates unintended change in ignition switch position can be attributed to an inertial force, usually attributed to knee contact with the ignition key.
- The scope will include 2006 – 2007 Jeep Commander vehicles and 2005 – 2007 Jeep Grand Cherokee vehicles.
- As of July 14, 2014 root cause, field remedy, and precise vehicle scope have not been established.
- As of June 24, 2014 Chrysler is aware of one (1) accident (NHTSA VOQ No. 10158165) and zero (0) injuries potentially related to this issue.
- On July 15, 2014 Chrysler determined, through the Vehicle Regulations Committee, that the condition constitutes a safety-related defect.

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

Chrysler will supplement this Defect and Noncompliance Report when the remedy is determined. In the meantime, it is very important that drivers adjust their seat to allow clearance between the driver's knee and the ignition key, and remove all items from their key ring, leaving only the vehicle key.

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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 owners 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 September 2014.

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

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

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

Chrysler has assigned recall number P41 to this action.

Sincerely,



Philip Hartnagel  
Product Investigations and Campaigns Senior Manager

cc: Frank Borris, NHTSA