

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**14V-528****Manufacturer Name :** Chrysler Group LLC**Submission Date :** OCT 03,2014**NHTSA Recall No. :** 14V-528**Manufacturer Recall No. :** P51**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Chrysler Group LLC

Address : 800 Chrysler Drive

CIMS 482-00-91 Auburn Hills MI 48326-2757

Company phone : 1-800-853-1403

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 18,245

Estimated percentage with defect : 0

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle : 2013-2015 Ram C/V Tradesman

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : VAN

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : The Ram C/V Tradesman is the cargo van variant of the Dodge Caravan minivan.
The Ram C/V Tradesman contains only 2 front bucket seats, with no rear seating.

Production Dates : JUL 25, 2012 - AUG 20, 2014

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : Some 2013 – 2015 Ram C/V Tradesman vehicles may experience front passenger side curtain and/or seat airbag inadvertent deployments.

Description of the Safety Risk : An inadvertent front passenger side curtain and/or seat airbag deployment could injure an out-of-position seated occupant.

Description of the Cause : Root cause was determined to be a resonance at the rear quarter panel sensor caused by the lack of the rear speaker and HVAC (deleted in 97% of the C/V Tradesman models). The resonance was aggravated by the installations of aftermarket roof racks & their associated equipment.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

- On March 25, 2014, a 2014 MY RT Ram C/V Tradesman ("Ram C/V") was reported to have experienced a seat thorax airbag IAD after being driven through a roadway pothole.
- A vehicle inspection revealed no related chassis damage and no obvious reason for seat thorax airbag deployment.
- In June 2014, Chrysler Regulatory Affairs became aware of reports that some Ram C/V vehicles had exhibited similar IAD events after having experienced similar vehicle inputs (potholes).
- Between March 25, 2014 and August 12, 2014 Chrysler became aware of 25 incidents involving 2013 MY (8) and 2014 MY (17) Ram C/V vehicles, where a front passenger side airbag curtain and/or thorax airbag IAD was reported.
- Chrysler has received six Occupant Restraint Control ("ORC") modules from incident vehicles for supplier (Continental) analysis.
- For the six ORC modules received, Continental's analysis indicated the rearmost right side impact sensor (rear quarter panel) was the discriminator that resulted in the deployments.
- Direct TV owned and operated 22 of the 25 2013-2014 MY Ram C/V vehicles with a reported IAD.
- Chrysler evaluated a 2014 MY Ram C/V owned by Direct TV. The review indicated the right rear quarter panel sensor was adjacent to where the rear speaker and rear HVAC were deleted on Ram C/V models.
- It was determined that all 25 of the 2013- 2014 MY Ram C/V incident vehicles lacked both the rear speaker and rear HVAC.
- It was also noted that the Direct TV vans all had ladder racks installed on the roof. In addition to holding two ladders (one left & one right), the racks included a large box in the center for carrying conduit.
- In July 2014, Chrysler purchased a Direct TV van for additional static and dynamic testing, and comparison to an unmodified Ram C/V.

- The testing indicated a performance difference between the Direct TV van, the Ram C/V and the passenger van. This performance difference was most pronounced on the Direct TV van equipped with roof racks and ladders.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Chrysler will conduct a voluntary Safety Recall on all affected vehicles to re-flash the ORC module.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : A software change was made to the ORC side calibration, specifically the logic utilizing the rear quarter panel sensor.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : •On August 21, 2014, a PRI was initiated and a yard hold established at Windsor Assembly Plant for RAM C/V vehicles.

- CN 40723-M14 implemented a change to the ORC side calibration, specifically the logic utilizing the rear quarter panel sensor.

- IAA I0819-M14-00 authorizes the reflashing of the ORC modules in the yard held RAM C/V vehicles.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Chrysler estimates it will notify dealers and owners in September 2014.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : SEP 26, 2014 - SEP 26, 2014

Planned Owner Notification Date : OCT 03, 2014 - OCT 03, 2014

* NR - Not Reported