

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

July 24, 2015

Mr. David Smith Sr. Mgr, Product Investigation and Campaigns Chrysler (FCA US LLC) 800 Chrysler Drive CIMS-482-00-91 Auburn, CA 48326-2757

**Subject:** Radio Software Security Vulnerabilities

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter serves to acknowledge Chrysler (FCA US 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:

CHRYSLER/200/2015
CHRYSLER/300/2015
DODGE/CHALLENGER/2015
DODGE/CHARGER/2015
DODGE/DURANGO/2014-2015
DODGE/VIPER/2013-2015
JEEP/CHEROKEE/2014-2015
JEEP/GRAND CHEROKEE/2014-2015
RAM/1500/2013-2015
RAM/2500/2013-2015
RAM/3500/2013-2015
RAM/4500/2013-2015
RAM/5500/2013-2015
RAM/5500/2013-2015

Mfr's Report Date: July 23, 2015

NHTSA Campaign Number: 15V-461

# **Components:**

EQUIPMENT: ELECTRICAL: RADIO/TAPE DECK/CD ETC.

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 1,400,000

## **Problem Description:**

Chrysler (FCA US LLC) is recalling certain model year 2013-2015 Ram 1500, 2500, 3500, 4500, and 5500, 2015 Chrysler 200, Chrysler 300, Dodge Charger, and Dodge Challenger, 2014-2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee, Cherokee, and Dodge Durango, and 2013-2015 Dodge Viper vehicles. The affected vehicles are equipped with radios that have software vulnerabilities that can allow third-party access to certain networked vehicle control systems.



1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NVS-215SM

15V-461

### **Consequence:**

Exploitation of the software vulnerability may result in unauthorized remote modification and control of certain vehicle systems, increasing the risk of a crash.

### Remedy:

Chrysler will notify and mail affected owners a USB drive that includes a software update that eliminates the vulnerability, free of charge. Optionally, owners may download the update to their own USB drive from http://www.driveuconnect.com/software-update/ or take their vehicle to a Chrysler dealer for immediate installation. In an effort to mitigate the effects of this security vulnerability, Chrysler has had the wireless service provider close the open cellular connection to the vehicle that provided unauthorized access to the vehicle network. This measure may not have been implemented on all vehicles and does not address access by other means that will be remedied by the software update. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Chrysler customer service at 1-800-853-1403. Chrysler's number for this recall is R40.

#### 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.

We note that Chrysler's Defect Information report states that FCA US has not made a determination that this security vulnerability constitutes a safety defect. This statement has no force or effect in terms of Chrysler's obligation to undertake and complete the recall and NHTSA does not agree with it.

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).

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that it is required that owners be notified of a safety defect in their vehicles within 60 days of a manufacturer's notification to NHTSA of a safety defect in those vehicles.

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

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 or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Timian Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations

Enforcement

