

August 2016



TO: ALL U.S. FCA DEALERSHIPS
ATTN: PRINCIPAL, SERVICE MANAGER & PARTS MANAGER
SUBJECT: Safety Recall R59 Left Rear Axle Shaft *Advisory Notification*

In an effort to provide enhanced support and communication for open campaigns, FCA and Mopar ask that you read this important announcement regarding Safety Recall R59 - Left Rear Axle Shaft.

R59 RAM Truck Axle Bearing Journal Hardness Overview

FCA US LLC announced a safety recall on certain 2015 and 2016 model year (DS) RAM trucks that may have a left rear axle shaft that was not heat-treated properly at the axle shaft bearing journal. An improperly heat-treated axle shaft may cause the bearing to create a grinding noise during operation, illuminate the Anti-Lock Brake System (ABS) warning lamp, and eventually cause a left axle shaft fracture. If the left axle shaft fractures, wheel separation from the vehicle may occur. This could cause a crash without warning, injure pedestrians, and/or damage property. **All involved in-stock vehicles are under a "STOP SALE ORDER" and cannot be sold. Civil penalties could be imposed for delivering a non-compliant vehicle.** FCA will conduct a voluntary safety recall on all affected vehicles to inspect the left rear axle shaft on all involved vehicles.

Safety Recall R59 *Advisory Notification*

There has been an increase in repeat or duplicate repairs being charged to Warranty following the completion of Safety Recall R59. The majority of the repeat or duplicate repairs are related to resealing the rear differential cover and adding Mopar Limited Slip Additive (friction modifier). Please ensure technicians are following each step of the established/documented repair process:

- Technicians should review the revised Dealer Service Instructions from December 2015 located in the Global Recall System.
- **Referencing repair instruction steps 22-27:** Cleaning of both the differential cover sealing surface and the differential housing sealing surface of old RTV sealant is critical to prevent future leaks. The applied Mopar Axle RTV Sealant cannot sit for longer than 5 minutes on the sealing surface without being compressed between the differential cover and housing sealing surfaces. If the sealant sits for longer than 5 minutes, it is necessary to remove and clean those surfaces again and repeat the resealing steps.
- Friction modifier must be added to all vehicles all vehicles that have a limited slip differential (DSA Sales Code) for work where the shaft is inspected and/or replaced. **Referencing repair instruction steps 28-29:** For vehicles equipped with a limited slip differential (**DSA Sales Code**), install 5 ounces of Mopar Limited Slip Additive (04318060AD Friction Modifier). This requires 2 bottles of friction modifier and the 5 ounces has to be measured out. Fill the rear axle with Mopar gear lubricant. The lubricant level should be at the bottom of the fill plug hole.
- Ensure special care is taken when removing and installing the shafts from/to the differential to minimize the shaft contact with the shaft seal. Do not rest the shaft on the seal. During the removal process, make sure the shaft does not contact the seal, especially the spline end. This will prevent the possibility of future leak complaints.
- **Referencing repair instruction step 30:** Paint all areas of the rear axle where orange silicone sealant can be seen and touch up the fasteners. This will provide a clean and consistent appearance from behind the truck.