

FCA US LLC Chronology
PE 15-024 Dodge Dart Brake Booster
Submitted on November 24, 2015

- On June 18, 2015, the FCA US LLC (“FCA US”) Vehicle Safety and Regulatory Compliance (“VSRC”) organization opened an investigation on 2013 Dodge Dart vehicles regarding the potential for brake booster loss of assist, hard brake pedal, air leak noise and increased stopping distance.
- On June 18, 2015, NHTSA opened investigation PE15-024 relating to the issue.
- On July, 2, 2015, NHTSA issued an Information Request in investigation PE15-024. FCA US continued to investigate the issue, and timely responded the Information Request on August 26, 2015.
- As a result of normal monitoring of various quality inputs, both internal and external, FCA US had previously identified an increased level of brake booster warranty claims, which resulted in process and design changes.
- The data shows significant reduction in warranty claims as well as customer complaints and field reports after the implementation of both the process and design change.
- All part returns with engine oil in the booster were from vehicles with either a 2.0L or 2.4L engine. Zero of the returns with engine oil in the booster were from vehicles with a 1.4L engine.
- On November 2, 2015, FCA US participated in a conference call with NHTSA to discuss the issue.
- During that conference call FCA US agreed to present the issue at its next Vehicle Regulations Committee (“VRC”).
- On November 17, 2015 FCA US determined, through the VRC, to conduct a voluntary safety recall of the affected 2013 and 2014 MY vehicles.
- The suspect period includes vehicles built prior to the implementation of a revised brake booster vacuum tube, which includes a tortuous routing path.
- The suspect build period is February 27, 2012 through January 23, 2014 at Belvidere Vehicle Assembly Plant.
- As of November 6, 2015, the 2013 MY Tigershark brake booster warranty claim rate is approx. 16.5 C/1,000 at 36 MIS.
- The affected vehicles that experience the issue are compliant with FMVSS135, which includes a test for inoperative brake power assist.