

FCA US LLC Chronology
2018 Ram ProMaster Front Door Impact Pressure Sensor Fractured
Submitted on November 14, 2017

- On August 18, 2017, the FCA US LLC (“FCA US”) Manufacturing Quality organization opened a Product Related Issue (“PRI”) due to a front door impact pressure sensor that had a fractured attachment location after installation.
- On August 20, 2017, FCA US engineering determined the material properties of the sensor and rivet were within FCA US’ specifications.
- On August 21, 2017, the FCA US Vehicle Safety and Regulatory Compliance (“VSRC”) organization opened an investigation for this issue.
- On August 22, 2017, FCA US engineering determined that the existing rivet was incorrectly used for the installation of the new sensor. The rivet expands radially within the plastic attachment location of the sensor potentially resulting in a fracture of the sensor housing.
- On August 23, 2017, FCA US engineering identified, validated and began using a rivet with the appropriate properties to fasten the sensors.
- From August 24, 2017, through August 31, 2017, FCA US SVAP yard management repaired 1,349 vehicles built between August 18, 2017, and August 23, 2017, that were held for this issue.
- On September 20, 2017, the FCA US VSRC organization completed its investigation and determined that the random nature of the potential fractures was unpredictable and therefore all 2018 MY Ram ProMaster vehicles built before August 23, 2017, are suspect.
- On October 4, 2017, the FCA US Vehicle Regulations Committee (“VRC”) requested additional information regarding pressure sensor mounting effects and sensing requirements for deployment.
- On October 20, 2017, the FCA US VSRC organization completed further investigation with FCA Italy S.p.A. engineering and determined that front door pressure sensing is required for proper side airbag deployment and, if supplier sensor mounting guidelines are not met, the performance of the sensor cannot be guaranteed in certain side impact crashes.
- This issue affects all 2018 MY Ram ProMaster vehicles, which utilize front door impact pressure sensing. The suspect period was established as July 24, 2017, when 2018 MY Ram ProMaster production began with the use of a new pressure sensor and an existing fastening rivet combination, to August 23, 2017, when a correctly specified rivet was released for production at Saltillo Van Assembly Plant (“SVAP”) for installation of the new sensor.
- Similar vehicles not affected by this recall were built without the suspect pressure sensor and fastening rivet combination.
- As of November 2, 2017, FCA US LLC (“FCA US”) has not identified any CAIRs, VOQs or field reports related to this issue.
- As of November 2, 2017, total warranty is 0 at 0c/1000.
- As of November 2, 2017, FCA US is unaware of any accidents or injuries potentially related to this issue.
- On November 6, 2017, FCA US determined, through the Vehicle Regulations Committee, to conduct a voluntary safety recall of the affected vehicles.