

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

18V-149

Manufacturer Name : Chrysler (FCA US LLC)**Submission Date :** MAR 06, 2018**NHTSA Recall No. :** 18V-149**Manufacturer Recall No. :** U23**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Chrysler (FCA US 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 : 224

Estimated percentage with defect : 50 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2018-2018 RAM ProMaster City

Vehicle Type :

Body Style : VAN

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Certain 2018 MY Ram ProMaster City vehicles were built with suspect hydraulic rack-and-pinion steering gears. These steering gears were built and shipped between October 9, 2017, and November 5, 2017, and may contain a casting defect. Suspect castings were produced between October 2, 2017, and October 8, 2017, and were limited to cavity #7 in the production tool. The suspect vehicles were identified by a traceability code from the suspect period. Similar vehicles produced between January 29, 2018, and February 20, 2018, were built with steering gears which did not contain castings produced from cavity #7.

Production Dates : JAN 29, 2018 - FEB 20, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : Certain 2018 Ram ProMaster City vehicles equipped with hydraulic rack-and-pinion steering gears may have been built with a casting defect. This casting defect may result in a crack and loss of hydraulic fluid potentially resulting in sudden increased steering efforts.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If a casting defect exists in the steering gear housing, the driver may observe noise while steering, potential loss of steering fluid, and increased steering efforts. A sudden increase in steering efforts could result in a vehicle crash without prior warning.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The driver is likely to observe noise and/or a fluid leak from the steering gear prior to experiencing increased steering efforts.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Nexteer
Address : Towarowa 6, 43-100
Tychy FOREIGN STATES 43-100
Country : Poland

Chronology :

- On February 20, 2018, supplier (Nexteer) informed the FCA Italy S.p.A. ("FCA Italy") Supplier Quality Engineering ("SQE") department about a potential defect in the hydraulic rack-and-pinion steering gear housing due to a processing issue identified in die-cast cavity #7 manufactured between October 2, 2017, and October 8, 2017. Potentially defective parts were isolated to a specific batch of 1050 parts (Fiat Doblò EMEA and Ram ProMaster City).
- On February 21, 2018, FCA Italy initiated a yard hold for vehicles within the EMEA region. Additionally, FCA Italy SQE established a parts list to identify the scope of vehicles assembled in the Türk Otomobil Fabrikası Anonim Şirketi ("TOFAS") assembly plant.
- On February 22, 2018, a preliminary vehicle list was established to identify vehicles outside TOFAS Plant containment. EMEA Quality informed FCA US LLC ("FCA US") Quality about ProMaster City vehicles involved.
- On February 24, 2018, shipment of suspect vehicles to NAFTA ports was communicated to the FCA US quality department.
- On February 27, 2018, FCA Italy determined, through its Vehicle Regulations Committee, to conduct a voluntary safety recall of the affected vehicles.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : FCA US will conduct a Voluntary Safety Recall, on all affected vehicles to inspect the steering gear housing for cavity #7 markings and replace the rack-and-pinion assembly produced between October 2, 2017, and October 8, 2017.
FCA US has a longstanding policy and practice of reimbursing owners who have incurred the cost of repairing a problem that subsequently becomes the subject of a field action. To ensure consistency, FCA US, as part of the owner letter, will request that customers send the original receipt and/or other adequate proof of payment to the company for confirmation of the expense.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Part Name: Steering Gear Left Hand Drive
Part Description: Hydraulic rack-and-pinion steering gear assembly
Part Number: 68385365AA
Comment: Cast housing for steering rack

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : **March 6, 2018: FCA US will notify dealers and begin notifying owners on or about 04/25/2018.
Planned Dealer Notification Date : APR 25, 2018 - APR 25, 2018
Planned Owner Notification Date : APR 25, 2018 - APR 25, 2018

* NR - Not Reported