Part 573 Safety Recall Report 18V-489

Manufacturer Name : Braun Corporation
Submission Date : SEP 18, 2018
NHTSA Recall No. : 18V-489
Manufacturer Recall No. : NR

NHTSA
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Braun Corporation
Address : 631 West 11 Street
Winamac IN 46996
Company phone : 574-946-6153

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 31,303
Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2012-2018 Chrysler/Dodge Town & Country/Caravan
Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES
Body Style : VAN
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : As noted in the original Part 573 report, Braun continued its investigation to determine the scope of the vehicle population affected by the noncompliance. Initially, Braun believed that the higher center of gravity on the 2017/2018 vehicles that were included in the July 20 Part 573 report may have contributed to the noncompliances, but proceeded to conduct FMVSS compliance tests on the other models which have lower centers of gravity.

On August 15, 2018, Braun received information confirming that the other models are also not compliant with FMVSS 126 and 135, and is filing this amendment to expand the scope of the recall to include all model years 2012-2018. See further explanation under the section "Describe the cause:"

The recalled products differ from products not included in the recall in that the rear brake lines are misrouted due to a change made to the OEM hydraulic control unit that was not identified.

Production Dates : OCT 12, 2011 - JUL 17, 2018
VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR ☐ Not sequential

Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : Braun has decided that certain Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles (WAV) manufactured on the Dodge RT minivan chassis, may fail to conform to certain requirements of FMVSS 135 and 126. While Braun has not identified any field reports of failures involving these issues on vehicles, Braun's internal testing indicates that these vehicles may not comply with the referenced standards.

FMVSS 1 :	135 - Light vehicle brake systems
FMVSS 2 :	126 - Electronic stability control systems
Description of the Safety Risk :	Under certain circumstances, if the vehicle fails to comply with the federal requirements for electronic stability control or braking, the vehicle could lose control and crash.
Description of the Cause :	During the manufacturing of the vehicles, the rear hydraulic brake lines were misrouted due to a change in the hydraulic brake line routing on the underlying vehicle chassis beginning in model year 2012, of which Braun was unaware.
Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :	We are unaware of any warning that may occur.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name :	NR
Address :	NR
	NR
Country :	NR

Chronology :

While developing a new wheelchair accessible vehicle platform on a Dodge RT chassis, Braun conducted routine FMVSS compliance tests, and encountered concerns related to compliance with FMVSS 126 and 135, upon which Braun launched a review of the test results and arranged for a retest of another vehicle at a different facility. Braun eventually received the retest report dated May 14, 2018, and concluded its validation of noncompliance on July 16, 2018.

Braun filed a Part 573 Noncompliance Information Report on July 20, 2018 addressing the noncompliance in 2017/2018 commercial use manual in-floor wheelchair ramp model manufactured on the Dodge RT minivan chassis.

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Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program :	For completed in-field and unshipped vehicles, the remedy will be to reroute the right rear brake line to the left rear wheel, and to implement a brake line extension for the left rear brake line so that it may be rerouted to the right rear wheel. The remedy in production is to remanufacture the brake lines so they may connect to the appropriate ports on the hydraulic control unit.
How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :	The remedy component will include a brake line extension to permit routing to the appropriate wheel.
Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :	The remedy in production is to remanufacture the brake lines so they may connect to the appropriate ports on the hydraulic control unit. Beginning July 18, 2018 all production vehicles have been corrected.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule :	We will begin notifying end users and transit agencies using the affected vehicles during the week of July 30, 2018. We will also begin to deploy teams to apply the in-field remedy during this time.
Planned Dealer Notification Date :	AUG 13, 2018 - AUG 13, 2018
Planned Owner Notification Date :	AUG 17, 2018 - AUG 17, 2018

* NR - Not Reported