

FCA US LLC Chronology
2017-2018 MY Alfa Romeo Giulia and 2018 MY Alfa Romeo Stelvio
Submitted on September 14, 2018

- On June 13, 2018, FCA US LLC (“FCA US”) Vehicle Safety and Regulatory Compliance (“VSRC”) department opened an investigation to review inputs from the product analysis group into a potential for a catalytic converter overheat condition on 2017-2018 MY Alfa Romeo Giulia vehicles.
- On July 17, 2018, a permanent malfunction indicator lamp (“MIL”) was set on an Alfa Romeo Stelvio vehicle during pre-delivery inspection. After reset, vehicle left to idle for approximately 45 minutes and MIL returned. The vehicle was then driven several minutes at speeds up to 70MPH. The engine was unable to maintain power and the vehicle slowed to 55MPH. The vehicle stalled and smoke was observed from engine compartment.
- Between July 18, 2018 and July 31, 2018, a technical team from Alfa Romeo and FCA US engineering was formed and an engine tear down and component testing were conducted on the incident vehicle.
- On July 18, 2018, Alfa Romeo conducted warranty search and identified eight additional thermal events potentially related to this issue. None contained reports of fire.
- On August 12, 2018, FCA US received an additional field report of a 2018 Alfa Romeo Stelvio that experienced an engine compartment fire. The vehicle driver was interviewed to understand driving conditions and vehicle feedback.
- On August 17, 2018, FCA US received a field report of a 2017 Alfa Romeo Giulia with minor damage to components surrounding the catalytic converter.
- Beginning August 20, 2018, during an inspection of one of the field report vehicles, the catalytic converter bricks were observed to be damaged and a hole in the outer shell was observed. Also, two of four spark plugs were observed to be blackened.
- Between August 23, 2018 and August 26, 2018, an additional field report vehicle was inspected with similar findings, the driver was interviewed and arrangements made for further analysis.
- Beginning August 30, 2018, FCA US and Alfa Romeo Engineering began testing in an attempt to recreate the condition in an attempt to understand the factors leading to elevated catalyst temperatures and identified an insufficient fuel control strategy in the ECU software that would prevent this catalytic converter overheating.
- As of September 7, 2018, Alfa Romeo has identified approximately 8 CAIRs, zero VOQs and 10 field reports related to this issue.
- As of September 7, 2018 Alfa Romeo has identified approximately 10 warranty claims related to this issue.
- As of September 7, 2018, Alfa Romeo is aware of no accidents and no injuries potentially related to this issue.
- On September 7, 2018, Alfa Romeo determined, through the Vehicle Regulations Committee, to conduct a voluntary safety recall of the affected vehicles.