

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

## 20E-037

**Manufacturer Name :** Chrysler (FCA US LLC)

**Submission Date :** JUN 11, 2020

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 20E-037

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** W48



### 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 :** 2,669

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 1 %

### Equipment Information :

**Brand / Trade 1 :** MOPAR

**Model :** PTU ASSY

**Part No. :** 68282447AB

**Size :** NR

**Function :** NR

**Descriptive Information :** Some two speed Power Transfer Units ("PTU") sold for use in Jeep Cherokee vehicles may experience a failure of the differential input splines inside the PTU.

The scope was determined by sales records of the suspect parts.

Similar parts not included in this recall are PTUs of a different design or were built with differential input splines that are more robust.

The total affected parts for this part number is 474.

**Production Dates :** FEB 01, 2016 -JUN 30, 2016

Brand / Trade 2 : MOPAR  
Model : PTU ASSY  
Part No. : 68090605AJ  
Size : NR  
Function : NR

**Descriptive Information :** Some two speed Power Transfer Units ("PTU") sold for use in Jeep Cherokee vehicles were assembled with components that allow relative movement between the differential input splines and the transmission output shaft.

The scope was determined by supplier production records and sales records of the suspect parts.

Similar parts not included in this recall are PTUs of a different design or were built with differential input splines that are more robust.

The total affected parts for this part number is 610.

**Production Dates :** APR 01, 2014 - JAN 31, 2015

Brand / Trade 3 : MOPAR  
Model : PTU ASSY  
Part No. : 68090605AK  
Size : NR  
Function : NR

**Descriptive Information :** Some two speed Power Transfer Units ("PTU") sold for use in Jeep Cherokee vehicles were assembled with components that allow relative movement between the differential input splines and the transmission output shaft.

The scope was determined by supplier production records and sales records of the suspect parts.

Similar parts not included in this recall are PTUs of a different design or were built with differential input splines that are more robust.

The total affected parts for this part number is 7.

**Production Dates :** DEC 01, 2014 - FEB 28, 2015

Brand / Trade 4 : MOPAR  
Model : PTU ASSY  
Part No. : 68090605AL  
Size : NR  
Function : NR

**Descriptive Information :** Some two speed Power Transfer Units ("PTU") sold for use in Jeep Cherokee vehicles were assembled with components that allow relative movement between the differential input splines and the transmission output shaft.

The scope was determined by supplier production records and sales records of the suspect parts.

Similar parts not included in this recall are PTUs of a different design or were built with differential input splines that are more robust.

The total affected parts for this part number is 668.

**Production Dates :** FEB 01, 2015 - JUL 31, 2015

Brand / Trade 5 : MOPAR  
Model : PTU ASSY  
Part No. : 68282447AA  
Size : NR  
Function : NR

**Descriptive Information :** Some two speed Power Transfer Units ("PTU") sold for use in Jeep Cherokee vehicles were assembled with components that allow relative movement between the differential input splines and the transmission output shaft.

The scope was determined by supplier production records and sales records of the suspect parts.

Similar parts not included in this recall are PTUs of a different design or were built with differential input splines that are more robust.

The total affected parts for this part number is 273.

**Production Dates :** APR 01, 2015 - FEB 29, 2016

Brand / Trade 6 : MOPAR  
Model : PTU ASSY  
Part No. : 68307403AA  
Size : NR  
Function : NR

**Descriptive Information :** Some two speed Power Transfer Units ("PTU") sold for use in Jeep Cherokee vehicles were assembled with components that allow relative movement between the differential input splines and the transmission output shaft.

The scope was determined by sales records of the suspect parts.

Similar parts not included in this recall are PTUs of a different design or were built with differential input splines that are more robust.

The total affected parts for this part number is 1.

**Production Dates :** NOV 01, 2015 - NOV 30, 2015

Brand / Trade 7 : MOPAR  
Model : PTU ASSY  
Part No. : 68307403AB  
Size : NR  
Function : NR

**Descriptive Information :** Some two speed Power Transfer Units ("PTU") sold for use in Jeep Cherokee vehicles were assembled with components that allow relative movement between the differential input splines and the transmission output shaft.

The scope was determined by sales records of the suspect parts.

Similar parts not included in this recall are PTUs of a different design or were built with differential input splines that are more robust.

The total affected parts for this part number is 541.

**Production Dates :** JUL 01, 2016 - OCT 31, 2016

Brand / Trade 8 : MOPAR  
Model : PTU ASSY  
Part No. : 68282447AC  
Size : NR  
Function : NR

**Descriptive Information :** Some two speed Power Transfer Units ("PTU") sold for use in Jeep Cherokee vehicles were assembled with components that allow relative movement between the differential input splines and the transmission output shaft.

The scope was determined by supplier production records and sales records of the suspect parts.

Similar parts not included in this recall are PTUs of a different design or were built with differential input splines that are more robust.

The total affected parts for this part number is 95.

**Production Dates :** JUN 01, 2016 - JUL 31, 2016

## Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** Relative movement in the PTU between the differential input splines and the transmission output shaft may result in the teeth of the input splines wearing off, which may eventually cause a loss of engagement between the transmission and the differential inside the PTU. If this occurs, torque cannot be transferred between the front wheels and the transmission which results in a loss of motive power while the vehicle is in motion and a loss of the PARK function while stationary.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** A loss of motive power can cause a vehicle crash without prior warning. A loss of PARK function can cause a vehicle crash without prior warning and/or injury to others outside the vehicle.

**Description of the Cause :** NR

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** None

## Involved Components :

Component Name : PTU Assembly

Component Description : Power Transfer Unit

Component Part Number : 68090605AJ, 68090605AK, 68090605AL, 68282447AA, 68282447AB,  
68282447AC, 68307403AA, 68307403AB

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : American Axle & Manufacturing

Address : One Dauch Drive

Detroit MICHIGAN 48211

Country : United States

## Chronology :

- On February 25, 2020, FCA US LLC ("FCA US") Vehicle Safety and Regulatory Compliance ("VSRC") organization opened an investigation based on information from the FCA US Proactive Sensing group that some Jeep Cherokee reports were alleging a loss of motive power and/or loss of PARK function. The most common repair associated with these reports was a replacement of the PTU.
- In March and April 2020, FCA US VSRC met with FCA US Powertrain Quality and FCA US Powertrain Engineering to review claim information associated with PTU replacements where a loss of motive power or PARK function was alleged in order to investigate common root causes and failure modes.
- In May 2020, FCA US VSRC and Powertrain Engineering identified differential input spline failure inside the PTU as a common root cause in claims that alleged a loss of motive power and/or loss of PARK function.
- As of May 28, 2020, FCA US has identified 15 CAIRs, 829 warranty claims, and 3 field reports potentially relating to this issue.
- As of May 28, 2020, FCA US is aware of 1 accident and 0 injuries potentially relating to this issue.
- On June 04, 2020, FCA US determined, through the Vehicle Regulations Committee, to conduct a voluntary safety recall of the affected PTUs.

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : FCA US will conduct a Voluntary Safety Recall to flash any affected vehicles with software that will maintain vehicle propulsion by engaging rear wheel drive and prevent rolling in PARK by activating the parking brake if a failed input spline occurs. If the subject part is not installed in a vehicle, it will be exchanged with a new part.

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 : If the subject component is installed in a vehicle the remedy component will be a software flash that, if failure of the input splines occurs, causes a MIL to illuminate, rear axle engagement to prevent a loss of motive power, and electronic parking brake activation when the vehicle is in PARK to prevent a loss of PARK function. If the component is not installed in a vehicle the part will be replaced with one that has more robust differential input splines.

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

## Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : \*\*06/11/2020: FCA US will notify dealers and begin notifying owners on or about 07/31/2020.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUL 31, 2020 - JUL 31, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUL 31, 2020 - JUL 31, 2020

## Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Company Phone : NR

\* NR - Not Reported