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By Recall Management Division at 1:28 pm, Feb 13, 2013

February 13, 2013

Ms. Nancy Lummen Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
Room: W48-302
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Attached is Chrysler Group LLC's ("Chrysler") Defect Information Report, complying with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, which contains details of a potential safety related defect in vehicles.

Chrysler will conduct a voluntary safety recall to install a jumper harness on all affected vehicles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. J. R. B. / for".

Reginald Modlin

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for Chrysler Group LLC. Recall N13

cc: Frank Borris, NHTSA

UPDATED DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER GROUP LLC

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Submission Date: February 13, 2013

573.6(c)(1): Manufacturer's Name, Brand Name

Chrysler Group LLC, Dodge

573.6(c)(2): Identification of Affected Vehicles

Make(s)	Model(s)	Model Year(s)	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Dodge	Viper	2003-2004	November 1, 2001 – June 30, 2004

573.6(c)(2)(iv): Component manufacturer name, address, telephone number, and country of origin:

TRW Automotive
24175 Research Drive
Farmington Hills, MI 48335-2642
248-699-4655

573.6(c)(3): Potentially Affected Vehicle Population

3,660 (estimated)

573.6(c)(4): Percentage of Affected Vehicles

< 0.03% (approximate)

573.6(c)(5): Description of Defect or Noncompliance

Some vehicles may experience front airbag and/or seatbelt pretensioner inadvertent deployments, increasing the risk for minor injuries and the possibility of a crash.

573.6(c)(6): Chronology of Principal Events Leading to Determination of a Safety Defect

- In October of 2011, NHTSA opened an investigation (PE11-035) relating to complaints of inadvertent airbag deployments (IAD) in 2002-2003 KJ vehicles.
- In January of 2012, the NHTSA investigation was upgraded (EA12-001) to include other vehicles that utilized the same Application Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC) as used in the KJ ORC module, including the 2002-2004 MY WJ.
- The investigation identified 126 IAD events that resulted in 59 minor injuries, involving 2002-2003 KJ vehicles with build dates ranging from June 6, 2001 to March

UPDATED DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER GROUP LLC

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- 19, 2003.
- 89 IAD events, that result in 22 minor injuries were identified involving 2002-2004 WJ vehicles with build dates ranging from August 1, 2001 to May 16, 2003.
- There were no crashes caused by an IAD event in KJ or WJ vehicles.
- KJ IAD events never result in a full driver airbag deployment, with almost 54% being Stage 2 (20%). WJ IAD events are full deployments of either the side curtain or the frontal airbags, but never both.
- A review of the field data indicated that the airbag warning lamp and/or chime are activated shortly before an IAD event. Inspections of ORC modules shows electrical overstress (EOS) to one of two squib ASICs.
- Equivalent Series Resistance (ESR) characterization of ORC modules has shown that modules from IAD vehicles exhibit ESR that is worse (higher) than modules outside of the suspect period.
- On October 3, 2012, the ORC supplier (TRW) informed Chrysler that the squib capacitor supplier (Kemet) made a material change, from Precious Metal Electrodes (PME) to Base Metal Electrodes (BME), which coincides with a noted change in capacitor ESR and corresponding IAD field performance.
- The capacitor supplier has confirmed that the use of PME for capacitors results in higher (worse) ESR ratings, which is believed to allow normal vehicle transients to damage the ORC module ASIC resulting in IADs.
- Chrysler was able to rule out other EA subject vehicles equipped with the same ASIC due to the ORC module electrical architecture, which would prevent an IAD.
- On October 30, 2012, Chrysler Group LLC decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall of the affected KJ and WJ vehicles.
- On January 29, 2013, Chrysler Group LLC decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall on 2003 – 2004 Dodge Viper (ZB) vehicles, due to similarities in ORC electrical architecture to the KJ and WJ subject vehicles. To date there have been no IAD events in the ZB subject vehicles.

573.6(c)(7): Information Used in Determination of a Noncompliance

N/A

573.6(c)(8): Description of Remedy

Chrysler will conduct a voluntary safety recall to install an in-line jumper harness with an integrated electrical noise filter, intended to perform the intended function of the ORC module capacitors.

Chrysler 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, Chrysler, 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.

573.6(c)(10): Dealer and Owner Communications

Chrysler will begin notifying dealers and owners in February, 2013.

Chrysler will provided dealer and owner letters when available.

573.6(c)(11): Manufacturer's Campaign Number

Chrysler has assigned recall number N13 to this action.