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DAIMLERCHRYSLER

OFFICE OF DEFECTS
INVESTIGATION

DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC

SENT VIA FedEx

March 4, 2003

Kenneth N. Weinstein, Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W. (NSA-01)
Washington, D.C. 20590

03V-082①of③

Re: Part 573 Defect Information Report

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

This letter is submitted by DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC (DCMI) on behalf of our parent company, DaimlerChrysler AG (DCAG) pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 573. Specifically, this report advises you on a defective condition within the electronic control unit for the airbag of certain model year 2003 Sprinter vehicles.

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

DaimlerChrysler AG, Stuttgart, Germany

Designated Agent: Wolf-Dieter Kleimeier
DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC
Huntersville, NC 28078
Tel: 704-655-1050
Fax: 704-655-1055

573.6(c)(2): Identification of Vehicles

Make	Model/Type	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Sprinter	2500 and 3500	2003	September 2002 through October 2002

Manufacturer of the Component Containing the Defect

The component containing the defect is the electronic control unit for the airbag, produced by Robert Bosch GmbH. The Mercedes-Benz part no. is A 000 446 0642.

Contact person in Germany: Mr. Andreas Reuter (Dept. ZR)
P.O. Box 10 60 50
70049 Stuttgart, Germany
Tel: 49-711-811-6580

03V-082 ② of ③

Alternative contact person: Mr. Luke Baer
Robert Bosch Corp. USA
Tel: 708-865-5257

573.6(c)(3): Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect

Approximately 281 vehicles are potentially affected. These "subject vehicles" include all these MY 2003 Sprinter vehicles produced between September 2003 and October 2003, which had the potentially defective component installed.

573.6(c)(4): Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect

It is estimated that approximately 1% of the subject vehicles described above contain the condition described below.

573.6(c)(5): Description of Defect

DCAG has determined that there is the potential for a pre-damage of a capacitor within the electronic control unit for the airbag. In the subject vehicles, a pre-damaged capacitor could crack and the airbag may not activate as designed. This condition is signaled to the driver by the SRS-warning lamp.

573.6(c)(6): Chronology of Principal Events

DCAG was informed by the supplier about a limited time period where one of the production lines for the electronic control unit for the airbag was not functioning properly. The malfunction of the production line could result in a pre-damage of a capacitor. This production damage could lead to the capacitor cracking and the warning lamp being activated.

573.6(c)(8): Remedy Program

DCAG, through its DaimlerChrysler Corporation (DCC) Group, will conduct a voluntary recall campaign for all subject Sprinter vehicles. The recall will be conducted in order to replace the electronic control unit for the airbag, without charge to all owners of the subject vehicles.

Because all subject vehicles are within their warranty time period, there should not be any owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall.

The estimated dates on which DCC will begin as well as complete sending notifications to owners that there is a safety-related defect and that a remedy without charge will be available, will be provided to the Agency, as soon as it is determined.

573.6(c)(9): Copies of Communications with Dealers or Purchasers

A copy will be provided when available.

573.6(c)(10): Copies of Proposed Owner Notification Letter

A copy will be provided not fewer than five Federal Government business days before DCC intends to begin mailing it to owners.

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

The DCC Recall Campaign Number will be provided when available.

If you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 704-655-1050 or Richard Shyu of my staff at 704-655-1052.

Sincerely,



Wolf-Dieter Kleimeier, Executive Vice President and COO
Engineering and Compliance
DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC
8936 NorthPointe Executive Drive
Huntersville, NC 28078

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DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC

2003 APR -1 A 8 53

OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Richard R. Shyn
Manager of Compliance
Tel: 704-655-1032
Fax: 704-655-1055
e-mail: richard.shyn@dcx.com

via FedEx

April 3, 2003

Office of Defects Investigation, Room 5326
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W. (NSA-01)
Washington, D.C. 20590
Attention: George Person

03V-082

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Subject: **Part 573 Defect Information Report**

Dear Mr. Person,

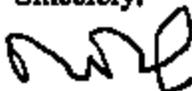
On March 4, 2003 Wolf-Dieter Kleimeier of DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC (DCMI), as a designated agent for process with the NHTSA for DaimlerChrysler AG's (DCAG) Sprinter vans, submitted a Part 573 Defect Information Report concerning a potential defective condition with the electronic control unit for the airbag of certain model year 2003 Sprinter vehicles. In that report, approximately 281 vehicles are identified in 573.6(c)(3) at that time. Since then, we had determined that 31 units of those affected were still contained in our manufacturing facility. The electronic control units of these vehicles have since been replaced, thus, the total number of vehicles potentially containing the defect shall read now as 250.

DCMI is now undertaking this campaign for DCAG, instead of DaimlerChrysler Corporation (DCC) stated in our March 4, 2003 report, since the migration of service and dealer information from DCAG to DCC systems could not be completed at this time. In addition, we have also completed the drafts of service instruction to our dealers as well as notification to our customers with campaign number assigned, and plan to start the campaign soon.

Attached are an updated/revised Part 573 Defect Information Report, with new updated/revised information in blue color and underlined, for the aforementioned new information, and copies of the draft dealer's service instruction and owner's notification for the campaign.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC
8934 NorthPointe Executive Dr.
Huntersville, NC 28076
Phone (704) 655 1000
Fax (704) 655 1001

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2003 APR -1 A 8:55

OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC

SENT VIA FedEx

April 3, 2003

Kenneth N. Weinstein, Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W. (NSA-01)
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Part 573 Defect Information Report (Update / Revision) 03V-082

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

This letter is submitted by DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC (DCMI) on behalf of our parent company, DaimlerChrysler AG (DCAG) pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 573. Specifically, this report updates and/or revises the earlier Part 573 Defect Information Report submitted to you on March 4, 2003.

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

DaimlerChrysler AG, Stuttgart, Germany

Designated Agent: Wolf-Dieter Kleimeier
DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC
Huntersville, NC 28078
Tel: 704-655-1050
Fax: 704-655-1055

573.6(c)(2): Identification of Vehicles

Make	Model/Type	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Sprinter	2500 and 3500	2003	September 2002 through October 2002

Manufacturer of the Component Containing the Defect

The component containing the defect is the electronic control unit for the airbag, produced by Robert Bosch GmbH. The Mercedes-Benz part no. is A 000 446 0642.

Contact person in Germany: Mr. Andreas Reuter (Dept. ZR)
P.O. Box 10 60 50
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Tel: 49-711-811-6580

Alternative contact person: Mr. Luke Baer
Robert Bosch Corp. USA
Tel: 708-865-5257

573.6(c)(3): Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect

Approximately 250 vehicles are potentially affected. These "subject vehicles" are those MY 2003 Sprinter vehicles produced between September 2003 and October 2003, which had the potentially defective component installed.

573.6(c)(4): Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect

It is estimated that approximately 1% of the subject vehicles described above contain the condition described below.

573.6(c)(5): Description of Defect

DCAG has determined that there is the potential for a pre-damage of a capacitor within the electronic control unit for the airbag. In the subject vehicles, a pre-damaged capacitor could crack and the airbag may not activate as designed. This condition is signaled to the driver by the SRS-warning lamp.

573.6(c)(6): Chronology of Principal Events

DCAG was informed by the supplier about a limited time period where one of the production lines for the electronic control unit for the airbag was not functioning properly. The malfunction of the production line could result in a pre-damage of a capacitor. This production damage could lead to the capacitor cracking and the warning lamp being activated.

573.6(c)(8): Remedy Program

DCAG, through DCMI, will conduct a voluntary recall campaign for all subject Sprinter vehicles. The recall will be conducted in order to replace the electronic control unit for the airbag, without charge to all owners of the subject vehicles.

Because all subject vehicles are within their warranty time period, there should not be any owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall.

The dates on which DCMI will begin as well as complete sending notifications to owners that there is a safety-related defect and that a remedy without charge are estimated to be April 14 and April 25, 2003 respectively

573.6(c)(9): Copies of Communications with Dealers or Purchasers

A copy is attached herewith for ODI's review.

573.6(c)(10): Copies of Proposed Owner Notification Letter

A copy is attached herewith for ODI's review.

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

The Recall Campaign Number is C14.

If you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 704-655-1050 or Richard Shyu of my staff at 704-655-1052.

Sincerely,



Wolf-Dieter Kleimeier, Executive Vice President and COO
Engineering and Compliance
DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC
8936 NorthPointe Executive Drive
Huntersville, NC 28078

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2003 APR -7 A 8 55

OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

SAFETY RECALL TO REPLACE YOUR VEHICLE'S AIRBAG CONTROL MODULE

Dear Sprinter Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

DaimlerChrysler AG has determined that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in some 2003 model year Freightliner Sprinter vehicles.

The problem is...

The airbag control module on your vehicle may contain an internal component that could fail. Component failure could cause illumination of the airbag warning light. As a result, the airbag(s) may not deploy properly which increases the risk of injury to front seat occupants in certain accident conditions.

What DaimlerChrysler and your dealer will do...

DaimlerChrysler will repair your vehicle free of charge (parts and labor). To do this, your dealer will replace the airbag control module. The work will take about ½ hour to complete. However, additional time may be necessary depending on how dealer appointments are scheduled and processed.

What you must do to ensure your safety...

- **Simply contact your dealer right away to schedule a service appointment. Your dealer already has the required part in stock for you.**
- **Bring this letter with you to your dealer. It identifies the required service to the dealer.**

If you have already experienced the problem described above and have paid to have it repaired, you may send your original receipts and/or other adequate proof of payment to the following address for reimbursement: DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC, 8936 NorthPointe Executive Drive, Huntersville, NC 28078.

If your dealer fails or is unable to remedy this defect without charge and within a reasonable time, you may submit a written complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590, or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236.

We're sorry for any inconvenience, but we are sincerely concerned about your safety. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International LLC

C14

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2003 APR -7 A 8:56 DAIMLERCHRYSLER

OFFICE OF
DEALER SERVICE DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

April 2003

Safety Recall No. C14 – Airbag Control Module

Models

2003 (VA) Freightliner Sprinter

NOTE: This recall applies only to certain vehicles built from September 2002 through October 2002.

IMPORTANT: Some of the involved vehicles may be in dealer new vehicle inventory. Federal law requires you to stop sale and complete this recall service on these vehicles before retail delivery. Dealers should also consider this requirement to apply to used vehicle inventory and should perform this recall on vehicles in for service.

Subject

The airbag control module on about 250 of the above vehicles may contain an internal component that could fail. Component failure could cause illumination of the airbag warning light. As a result, the airbags may not deploy properly which increases the risk of injury to front seat occupants in certain accident conditions.

Repair

The airbag control module must be replaced.

Parts Information

Parts have been shipped to the servicing location for the involved vehicles. For questions regarding parts, contact Richard Shyu at 704-655-1052.

Service Procedure

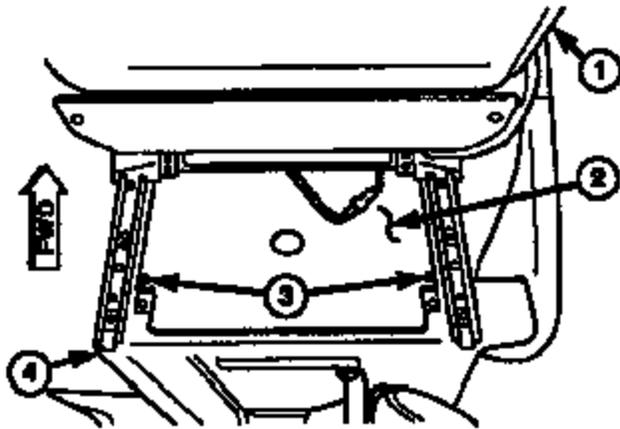


Figure 1

Remove the two (2) screws that secure the cover panel to the seat riser (Figure 1) and then remove the cover.

- Remove the two (2) screws that secure the control module bracket to the seat riser (Figure 2) and then remove the bracket.

- Move the driver's seat to the full forward position.
- Disconnect the negative battery cable.

NOTE: To enhance customer satisfaction, remember to reset the clock when you have completed the service procedure.

- Remove the two (2) screws that secure

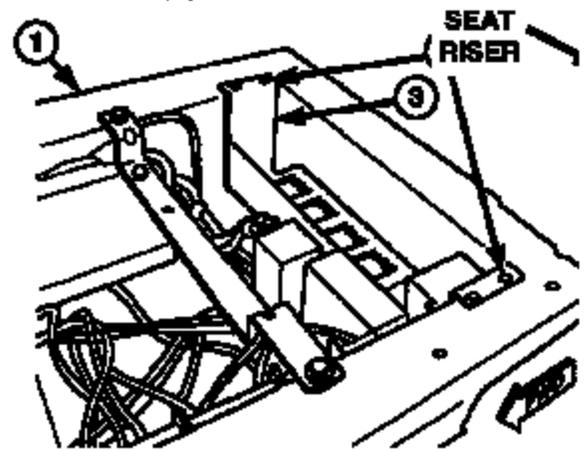
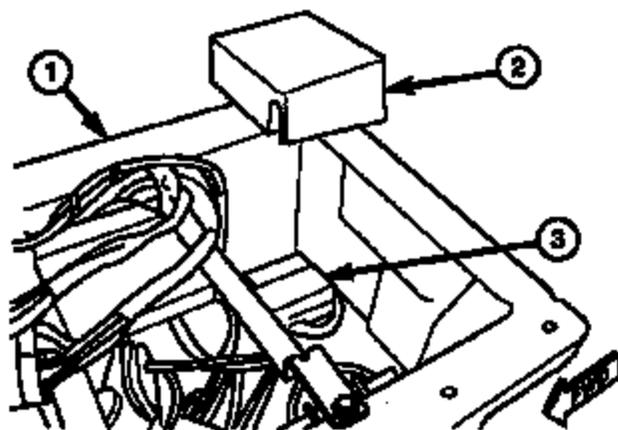


Figure 2

Service Procedure (Continued)



5. Remove the plastic airbag module cover by grasping it firmly and pulling upward (Figure 3).

**SEAT
RISER**

Figure 3

6. Remove the three (3) airbag control module screws (Figure 4).

7. Lift the module up far enough to access the connector and then disconnect the airbag control module electrical connector (Figure 4).

8. Remove the airbag control module and discard it.

9. Connect the electrical connector to the new airbag control module and then install the module on the bracket. Make sure that the arrow on the module is pointing forward.

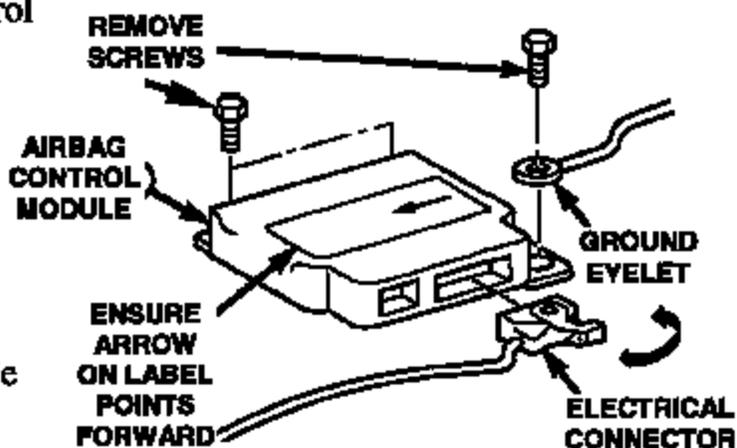


Figure 4

10. Install the three (3) airbag control module screws. Tighten the screws to 105 in-lbs (12 N·m) (Figure 4).

NOTE: Make sure that the ground eyelet is installed on the left rear mounting screw.

11. Install the plastic cover over the airbag control module (Figure 3). Press down on the cover firmly and evenly until it snaps into place.

Service Procedure (Continued)

12. Install the airbag control module bracket. Tighten the screws to 18 in-lbs (2 N·m) (Figure 2).
13. Install the seat riser cover. Tighten the screws to 18 in-lbs (2 N·m) (Figure 1).
14. With the ignition switch in the ON position, connect the negative battery cable.
15. **From outside the vehicle**, turn the ignition switch to the OFF position for about 10 seconds and then back to the ON position.
16. Observe the airbag warning light in the instrument cluster. It should illuminate for 6-8 seconds and then go out.

NOTE: If the airbag warning light fails to light or lights and stays on, there is a system malfunction. Refer to the proper Body Diagnostic Procedures manual to diagnose and repair the problem.

Reimbursement

Forward reimbursement claims to:

DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International
8936 NorthPointe Executive Drive, Suite 200
Huntersville, NC 28078
Attention: Wolf-Dieter Kleimeier

Parts Return

Removed airbag control modules must be returned to:

DaimlerChrysler Manufacturing International
8936 NorthPointe Executive Drive
Huntersville, NC 28078
Attention: Wolf-Dieter Kleimeier