



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE09-037
Date Opened: 08/12/2009
Principal Investigator: Derek Rinehardt
Subject: Transmission overheating/fire

Date Closed: 11/17/2009

Manufacturer: Chrysler LLC.
Products: MY 2007 and 2008 Jeep Wrangler w/automatic transmission
Population: 160,000 (estimated)

Problem Description: The transmission may overheat, possibly resulting in fluid expulsion and vehicle fire.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	4	17	21
Crashes/Fires:	2	10	12
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

*Description of Other:

Action: This Preliminary Evaluation has been closed. (Recall 09V-436).

Engineer: Derek Rinehardt *DR*
Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 11/17/2009
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Summary:

In a letter dated November 3, 2009, Chrysler Group LLC. (Chrysler), notified NHTSA that it will conduct a safety recall of approximately 161,000 model year (MY) 2007 and 2008 Jeep Wrangler vehicles built with automatic transmissions. Chrysler stated that "these vehicles were not equipped with a transmission fluid temperature warning system and the operation of these vehicles beyond the limits of reasonable usage over a period of time could result in transmission failure and in some cases transmission fluid expulsion." The expelled fluid could come in contact with a hot engine or exhaust component and cause a fire.

Chrysler will conduct a safety recall to install a "hot oil" warning message in the instrument cluster and a chime indicating an elevated transmission fluid temperature condition. An owner's manual addendum stating the purpose of the "hot oil" message and chime to include caution and warning statements regarding elevated transmission fluid temperature conditions will be provided to owners. Based on Chrysler's decision to conduct a safety recall this Preliminary Evaluation is closed.