

**PART 573 DEFECT REPORT**

06E-022

**Report Date:** March 9, 2006

(3 pgs.)

The following information is submitted pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 573:

**Manufacturer Identification**

**Manufacturer:** Brake Parts Inc.  
4400 Prime Parkway  
McHenry, IL 60050

**Parent:** Affinia Group, Inc.  
1101 Technology Drive  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

**Product Identification**

This recall involves brake hydraulic master cylinders manufactured by Brake Parts Inc. (BPI) and sold by Affinia under the Raybestos and Aimco brand names, and by various third parties under the NAPA, AC Delco, CarQuest, and Bendix brand names. These products were intended for aftermarket installation on the vehicle applications listed in the table below:

NAPA	Raybestos	AC Delco	Aimco	CarQuest	Bendix	Application
390096	MC390096	18M615	M900825	E150475	12572	1992-2001 Viper; 1992-1997 Ford Trk. Aerostar;
390275	MC390275	18M739	M900961	E150614	13049	1996 Chrysler Town Country Van; 2000 Chrysler Voyager; 1996-2000 Dodge Caravan; 1996-2000 Plymouth Trk. Voyager;
390303	MC390303	18M957	M900983	E150610	13036	2002 Chrysler Prowler; 1997-2001 Prowler; 1995-2001 Jeep Trk. Cherokee; 1995-1998 Jeep Trk. Grand Cherokee;
390378	MC390378	18M802	M901037	E161361	13279	1997-1998 Dodge Trk. Dakota; 1997-2005 Jeep Trk. Wrangler;
390408	MC390408	18M853	M901358	E151563	13478	1998 Dodge Durango;
390463	MC390463	18M857	M901361	E151567	13481	1997-2000 Ford Contour; 1999-2002 Cougar; 1997-2000 Mercury Mystique;
390511	MC390511	N/A	M901284	E151836	13689	1999-2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee
390534	MC390534	18M868	M901354	E151597	13487	1998-2000 Chrysler Town Country Van; 2000 Chrysler Voyager; 1998-2000 Dodge Caravan; 1998-2000 Plymouth Trk. Voyager;
390708	MC390708	18M930	M901129	E152588	13525	2001-2005 Chrysler Town Country Van; 2001-2005 Chrysler Voyager; 2001-2005 Dodge Caravan;
390711	MC390711	N/A	M901281	E151832	13690	2002 Jeep Liberty Left hand dr. w/ABS
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	13046	1995-1996 Ford Contour w/o ABS 1995-1996 Mercury Mystique w/o ABS

**Recall Population**

Approximately 7440 suspect brake hydraulic master cylinders were sold through Affinia's U.S. warehouses between July 27, 2005 and January 17, 2006. Affinia will recall 100 % of the subject parts.

**Description of Defect**

When subjected to very cold temperatures, i.e., below 5 degrees Fahrenheit (-15 Celsius), an internal seal in the master cylinder could lose flexibility. This condition may cause brake fluid to leak, leading to a decrease in brake line pressure and an increase in stopping distance.

**Chronology of Events**

Affinia became aware of a potential issue with the subject brake hydraulic master cylinder when it received several warranty claims in December that reported a possible loss of hydraulic brake fluid at low vehicle service miles. Affinia immediately began an investigation of the subject products to determine whether a potential safety issue existed. This investigation revealed that the seal used in these master cylinders may not properly maintain its seal at extremely cold temperatures. On March 6, 2006, Affinia decided to conduct this voluntary safety recall.

**Remedy Program**

Affinia will replace the subject brake hydraulic master cylinders at no charge to the customer. All affected wholesale distributors, dealers, installers, and other customers will be advised to immediately return their unsold inventory of the subject brake drums for a full refund. Affinia will also work with its direct customers to attempt to identify and notify other affected distributors and end users.

**Pre-Notification Reimbursement**

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 577.11(e), Affinia requests that it be exempt from providing notification of a reimbursement plan. All of the affected products are covered by the manufacturer's limited lifetime warranty. Accordingly, no person would be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to § 573.13.

**Part 577 Notice Letter and Dealer Notification**

Affinia's draft Part 577 dealer and owner notices are submitted herewith. Affinia is prepared to proceed with its notification program within five days after NHTSA's review of these communications.

**Contact:**

Mr. George Bielis  
Vice President Product Engineering, Machining  
Brake Parts Inc, Affinia Corporation  
Under Vehicle Group  
Bus: 815-759-7660  
Fax: 815-759-7616