

May 5, 2008

Mr. Daniel C. Smith  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
West Building, Fourth Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20590

08V-202  
(3 (pages)

Dear Mr. Smith:

Attached is Chrysler LLC's ("Chrysler") Defect Information Report, complying with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, which affects a small number of 2007-2008 model year right hand drive (RHD) Jeep Wrangler vehicles. Some Jeep Wrangler RHD vehicles may have insufficient clearance between the steering intermediate shaft and rear brake tubes. Prolonged brake tube contact could wear a hole in the tube and cause a partial brake system loss. Chrysler will conduct a safety recall to install a revised brake tube clip, inspect the brake tubes for any damage, and replace the brake tubes if necessary.

Sincerely,

  
Stephen J. Speth

Enclosures: Defect Information Report for Chrysler Recall H17

cc: K. C. DeMeter, NHTSA  
Division of Occupational Safety & Health  
California Department of Industrial Relations

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.

# DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER RECALL H17

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**Submission date:** May 5, 2008

## Identifying classification of vehicles potentially affected:

Make	Model	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture	Vehicle Volume	Other
Jeep	Wrangler	2007 - 2008	6/14/2006 - 3/5/2007	1,585 (estimated)	Right hand drive vehicles only

**Estimated percentage containing noncompliance:** TBD

## Description of Defect:

Some Jeep Wrangler RHD vehicles may have insufficient clearance between the steering intermediate shaft and rear brake tubes. Prolonged brake tube contact could wear a hole in the tube and cause a partial brake system loss. This could cause a crash without warning.

## The following chronology of principal events occurred between August of 2007 and April of 2008 led to the determination of a defect:

- The Jeep Wrangler was redesigned for the 2007 model year, and included a right hand drive (RHD) version sold in the United States.
- In August of 2007, during evaluation of a 2008 model year Jeep Wrangler RHD vehicle at the Toledo North Assembly Plant, an under hood noise was detected.
- Upon inspection, it was observed that an interference condition between the rear brake tubes and steering intermediate shaft was creating the noise.
- Jeep Wrangler RHD vehicles within plant control were held and an investigation initiated.
- Variability in clip retention was noted. The clip was removed and a nylon tie strap was added in its place to secure the brake tubes to the shock tower. Field performance was monitored.
- In February of 2008, input was received from the Japan market for Jeep Wrangler RHD vehicles with minimal clearance between the steering intermediate shaft and the brake tubes. Additional investigation determined the nylon tie strap was not sufficiently taut to properly locate the brake tubes relative to the steering intermediate shaft.
- In March of 2008, a revised clip was added for Jeep Wrangler RHD production vehicles, and the nylon tie strap was removed.
- Chrysler is not aware of any customer complaints related to this issue. This condition does not exist on Jeep Wrangler left hand drive vehicles.
- This data was presented to the Vehicle Regulations Committee on April 28, 2008 who decided to conduct a safety recall.

## Statement of measures to be taken to correct defect:

Chrysler will install a revised brake tube clip to retain the tubes, inspect the brake tubes for damage due to potential contact with the steering intermediate shaft, and replace the brake

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tubes if necessary. Chrysler expects to initiate national notification to both dealers and owners when a sufficient quantity of parts becomes available. Chrysler's scheduling information for implementing this recall is not available at this time.

Chrysler has a long standing 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.