



July 30, 2014

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:

The following information is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.6, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, which contains details of a safety defect in vehicles as determined by Chrysler Group LLC.

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

Chrysler Group LLC, Fiat

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

Make(s)	Model(s)	Model Year(s)	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Fiat	500L	2014 - 2015	March 3, 2012 to July 25, 2014

The determination of the recall population is described in Section 573.6(c)(6).

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

TRW Polska Sp. z o.o.
ul. Rolnicza 33
PL-42-200 Czestochowa
Poland
48.34.343.1003
Country of origin: Poland

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

25,483 (estimated)

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

Unknown

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

Some 2014 - 2015 Fiat 500L vehicles may experience irregularities in the driver's knee airbag folding process that could result in a Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 208 noncompliance. In the event of a crash, this may affect the proper position of the driver's knee airbag if the driver is not wearing a seatbelt, possibly resulting in injury.

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

- On June 2, 2014 the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) conducted an unbelted 25 mph 5th percentile female FMVSS No. 208 flat frontal compliance test on a 2014 MY Fiat 500L at MGA Research.
- On July 2, 2014 NHTSA discussed the preliminary results of its compliance test with Chrysler/Fiat Group Automotive (FGA), indicating the driver right femur load failed to meet the minimum injury criteria. Chrysler opened an investigation as a result of this discussion.
- Also on July 2, 2014, Chrysler became aware that FGA conducted a 2015 MY Fiat 500L NAFTA precertification static test on June 26, 2014, and discovered a similar driver's knee airbag deployment as the MGA Research compliance test. Root cause analysis performed by FGA and TRW found inconsistency in the driver's knee airbag manual folding process that could result in variations in the deployment of the knee airbag.
- On July 16, 2014 TRW implemented an update to the manual folding process of the driver's knee airbag.
- On July 16 & 17, 2014 FGA validated the driver's knee airbag process change in static and full vehicle testing.
- Chrysler's investigation established the suspect period as vehicles built from March 5, 2012 to July 25, 2014 at the Fiat Automotive Serbia Assembly Plant.
- As of July 29, 2014, Chrysler is not aware of any injuries related to this issue.
- On July 29, 2014, Chrysler determined, through the Vehicle Regulations Committee, to conduct a voluntary safety recall to replace the driver's knee airbag.

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573.6(c)(8): Description of Remedy

Chrysler will conduct a Voluntary Safety Recall on all affected vehicles to replace the driver's knee airbag.

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)(8): Dealer and Owner Communication

Chrysler estimates it will notify dealers and owners in August 2014.

573.6(c)(10): Submission of Recall Communications

Chrysler will provide representative copies of the dealer and owner letters to NHTSA's Recall Management Division when available.

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

Chrysler has assigned recall number P42 to this action.

Sincerely,



Philip Hartnagel

Product Investigations and Campaigns Senior Manager

cc: Frank Borris, NHTSA