

**CHRYSLER**

June 7, 2011

Mr. Claude Harris
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 Mr. Harris:

Attached is Chrysler Group LLC's ("Chrysler Group") Defect Information Report, complying with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, which contains details of a potential safety related defect in some 2011 model year Dodge Journey, Jeep Wrangler, Chrysler 200, Chrysler 200 Convertible, Dodge Avenger, Dodge Nitro, Jeep Liberty, Dodge Caliber, Jeep Compass, Jeep Patriot, Dodge Grand Caravan and Chrysler Town & Country vehicles.

Chrysler Group will conduct a voluntary safety recall to inspect for steering column pivot rivet presence and alignment, and repair as required on all affected vehicles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David D. Dillon".

David D. Dillon

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for Chrysler Recall L23

cc: Frank Boris, NHTSA

UPDATED DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER GROUP LLC

Page 1

Submission Date: June 14, 2011

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

Chrysler Group LLC, Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep

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

Make(s)	Model(s)	Model Year(s)	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Dodge	Journey	2011	May 13, 2011 – May 14, 2011
Jeep	Wrangler	2011	April 15, 2011 – May 6, 2011
Dodge	Avenger	2011	April 15, 2011 – May 5, 2011
Chrysler	200 & 200 Convertible	2011	April 15, 2011 – May 5, 2011
Dodge	Nitro	2011	April 21, 2011 – May 2, 2011
Jeep	Liberty	2011	April 21, 2011 – May 2, 2011
Jeep	Compass	2011	April 18, 2011 – May 2, 2011
Jeep	Patriot	2011	April 18, 2011 – May 2, 2011
Dodge	Caliber	2011	April 18, 2011 – May 2, 2011
Dodge	Grand Caravan	2011	April 15, 2011 – May 6, 2011
Chrysler	Town & Country	2011	April 15, 2011 – May 6, 2011

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

Chrysler - Toledo Machining Plant
8000 Chrysler Drive
Perrysburg, Ohio 43551
(419) 661-3500
Country of Origin: USA

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER GROUP LLC

Page 2

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

11.351 (estimated)

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

Less than 1% (approximate)

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

Some vehicles may have been built with a missing or incorrectly installed steering column pivot rivet which could result in compromised steering column performance in the event of a crash.

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

- On April 29, 2011, an internal investigation was initiated to evaluate a missing steering column pivot rivet which was discovered within the manufacturing process at the instrument panel system integrator, who subsequently notified Chrysler's Toledo Machining Plant (TMP).
- On May 2, 2011, a Product Related Issue (PRI) conference call was initiated and Toledo North and Belvedere assembly plants held their yard. The PRI and yard holds were later expanded to include the additional affected plants.
- An investigation at TMP determined that the root cause of the condition was improper identification of rejected components by new employees during the 2nd shift, which were subsequently reintroduced into the assembly process without being repaired.
- Investigation determined that the suspect population of steering columns began with assemblies built on and after April 11, 2011, which corresponds to a vehicle build date of April 15, 2011.
- An inspection of over 14,000 steering columns discovered 7 additional incidents of either a missing or misaligned rivet within the manufacturing process.
- There are no known customer complaints alleging misassembled steering column pivot rivets.
- Chrysler Group LLC is not aware of any accidents or injuries related to this issue.
- The affected vehicles will be inspected for rivet presence and alignment, and will be repaired as required.
- This information was presented to the Vehicle Regulations Committee on May 31, 2011, which decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER GROUP LLC

Page 3

573.6(c)(7): Information Used in Determination of a Noncompliance

N/A

573.6(c)(8): Description of Remedy

Chrysler will conduct a voluntary safety recall to inspect for rivet presence and alignment, and repair as required affected vehicles.

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)(10): Dealer and Owner Communications

Chrysler plans to begin notification of dealers and owners in July of 2011. Chrysler will provide the dealer and owner letters when available.

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

Chrysler has assigned recall number L23 to this action.