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By Recall Management Division at 11:17 am, Apr 03, 2013

13V-118  
(4 pages)

April 3, 2013

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:

Attached is Chrysler Group LLC's ("Chrysler") 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 vehicles.

Chrysler will conduct a voluntary safety recall to replace both driver and passenger seat airbag wiring harness on all affected vehicles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristin Kolodge".

Kristin Kolodge

Enclosure: Defect Information Report for Chrysler Group LLC. Recall N07

cc: Frank Borris, NHTSA

# DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR CHRYSLER GROUP LLC

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**Submission Date:** April 3, 2013

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

Chrysler Group LLC, Chrysler, Dodge

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

Make(s)	Model(s)	Model Year(s)	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
Chrysler	300 (LX)	2011-2012	April 11, 2011 – December 14, 2011
Dodge	Challenger (LC) Charger (LD)	2011-2012	April 11, 2011 – December 14, 2011

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

Lear Seating  
21557 Telegraph Rd.  
Southfield, MI. 48033  
248-447-1500  
USA

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

119,497 (estimated)

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

<4% (approximate)

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

Some vehicles may have been assembled with seat airbag wiring harnesses built with improper sized terminal crimps that may cause an intermittent airbag warning light.

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

- An investigation was initiated based on customer complaints of airbag warning lamp illumination and associated repair of front seat airbag wiring harnesses.
- The seat airbag wiring harness connector is used as a manufacturing aid at the supplier's facility, connecting the seatback and side airbag module to the seat cushion assembly and cushion wiring harness.

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- Investigation determined that the crimp within the 4-way female connector was not providing a robust connection; potentially causing intermittent high resistance values detected by the ORC (Occupant Restraint Control) module diagnostic pulse.
- The suspect seat wiring harness inline connectors were traced to vehicle build dates between April 11, 2011 and December 14, 2011.
- On April 18, 2011, the seat airbag wiring harness was changed from a 2-way non-CPA (Connector Position Assurance) connector to a 4-way (CPA) connector.
- The ORC module diagnostic pulse scans the system, checking for a maximum circuit resistance. The airbag warning light is illuminated after 5 consecutive readings above this maximum circuit resistance value.
- On December 14, 2011, permanent corrective actions were implemented to reduced crimp height and add a spot-solder on the wire harness terminals.
- Field data was monitored and a subsequent root cause analysis ultimately determined that the female terminal crimp height did not meet the USCAR maximum initial dry circuit resistance requirement.
- Additional independent third party testing conducted by GM&T Engineering Inc. confirmed that the female terminal exceeded the USCAR maximum initial dry circuit resistance requirement.
- There are approximately 79 CAIRs, 5 VOQs and 29 QNA field reports alleging airbag light illumination due to seat wiring harnesses. There are no crashes or injuries associated with this condition.
- On March 26, 2013, Chrysler Group LLC decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall on all affected vehicles.

### **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 replace both driver and passenger seat airbag wiring harness on all 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 April, 2013.

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

Chrysler has assigned recall number N07 to this action.