

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

22E-019

Manufacturer Name : Chrysler (FCA US, LLC)

Submission Date : MAR 14, 2022

NHTSA Recall No. : 22E-019

Manufacturer Recall No. : Z26



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Chrysler (FCA US, LLC)

Address : 800 Chrysler Drive
CIMS 482-00-91 Auburn Hills MI
48326-2757

Company phone : 1-800-853-1403

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 53

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Equipment Information :

Brand / Trade 1 : Mopar

Model : Gear Assembly - Steering Rack & Pinion Electric

Part No. : 68498478AA

Size : NR

Function : EPS Gear Assy

Descriptive Information : Some steering gear assemblies may have been manufactured with a steering gear rack bar with hardness below specification, which could potentially result in the bar bending or yielding.

The suspect part population includes steering gear assemblies built December 21, 2021, through January 5, 2022, and was determined using supplier traceability records of the suspect parts.

Similar steering gear assemblies not included in the recall were manufactured before or after the suspect period, or with properly hardened parts.

The total affected parts for this part number is 4.

Production Dates : DEC 21, 2021 - JAN 05, 2022

Brand / Trade 2 : Mopar

Model : Gear Assembly - Steering Rack & Pinion Electric

Part No. : 68499163AA

Size : NR

Function : EPS Gear Assy

Descriptive Information : Some steering gear assemblies may have been manufactured with a steering gear rack bar with hardness below specification, which could potentially result in the bar bending or yielding.

The suspect part population includes steering gear assemblies built December 21, 2021, through January 5, 2022, and was determined using supplier traceability records of the suspect parts.

Similar steering gear assemblies not included in the recall were manufactured before or after the suspect period, or with properly hardened parts.

The total affected parts for this part number is 19.

Production Dates : DEC 21, 2021 - JAN 05, 2022

Brand / Trade 3 : Mopar

Model : Gear Assembly - Steering Rack & Pinion Electric

Part No. : 68499166AA

Size : NR

Function : EPS Gear Assy

Descriptive Information : Some steering gear assemblies may have been manufactured with a steering gear rack bar with hardness below specification, which could potentially result in the bar bending or yielding.

The suspect part population includes steering gear assemblies built December 21, 2021, through January 5, 2022, and was determined using supplier traceability records of the suspect parts.

Similar steering gear assemblies not included in the recall were manufactured before or after the suspect period, or with properly hardened parts.

The total affected parts for this part number is 30.

Production Dates : DEC 21, 2021 - JAN 05, 2022

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : A steering gear rack bar manufactured with hardness below specification may, in certain circumstances, result in bending or yielding. If the steering gear rack bar yields, it could cause a rack bar to bind within the steering rack, possibly resulting in a sudden greater effort required to maintain directional steering control and/or the inability to maintain directional steering control.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : A sudden greater effort required to maintain directional steering control and/or the inability to maintain directional steering control can cause a vehicle crash without prior warning.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None

Involved Components :

Component Name : Electric Power Steering Gear Assembly

Component Description : Gear Assembly - Steering Rack & Pinion Electric

Component Part Number : 68498478AA

Component Name : Electric Power Steering Gear Assembly

Component Description : Gear Assembly - Steering Rack & Pinion Electric

Component Part Number : 68499163AA

Component Name : Electric Power Steering Gear Assembly

Component Description : Gear Assembly - Steering Rack & Pinion Electric

Component Part Number : 68499166AA

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : Nexteer Automotive

Address : 3900 Holland Road
Saginaw Michigan 48601-9494
Country : United States

Chronology :

- On January 6, 2022, the supplier notified FCA US LLC ("FCA US") Supplier Quality of a potential issue related to an incomplete steering gear rack bar hardening process.
- On February 4, 2022, the FCA US Technical Safety and Regulatory Compliance ("TSRC") organization opened an investigation based on information provided by FCA US Current Production Quality.
- From February 4, 2022, to February 23, 2022, FCA US TSRC reviewed FCA US and supplier records and met with FCA US engineering to review the issue and understand the part processing and delivery history.
- As of March 3, 2022, FCA US has identified zero customer assistance records, zero warranty claims, and zero field reports potentially relating to this issue for all markets.
- As of March 3, 2022, FCA US is not aware of any accidents or injuries potentially relating to this issue for all markets.
- On March 7, 2022, FCA US determined, through the Vehicle Regulations Committee, to conduct a voluntary safety equipment recall of the affected parts.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : FCA US will conduct a voluntary safety recall on all affected parts to replace or repurchase the steering gear assembly.

FCA US 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, FCA US, 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.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy steering gear assembly will be produced with a properly hardened steering gear rack bar.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : **03/14/2022: FCA US will notify dealers and begin notifying owners on or about 05/03/2022.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAY 03, 2022 - MAY 03, 2022

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAY 03, 2022 - MAY 03, 2022

Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Company Phone : NR

* NR - Not Reported