CENTER FOR AUTO SAFETY

1825 Connecticut Avenue, NW Suite 330 Washington, DC 20009-5708 (202) 328-7700

October 21, 2004 (By Federal Express 8246 4602 4358)

Albert P. Motta Customer Advocate Manager DaimlerChrysler Corporation 800 Chrysler Drive Auburn Hills MI 48326-2757

Dear Mr. Motta:

Thank you for your October 15 letter to the Center for Auto Safety (CAS) which responded to our letter of August 26, 2004 to DaimlerChrysler (Chrysler) Chairman Dieter Zetsche about oil sludge and engine failure on 1998-2002 Dodge Stratus and Intrepids and Chrysler Concordes and Sebrings with 2.7-liter V6 engines. We are puzzled by the October 15 date on your letter since it was shipped by UPS overnight on October 19 at 4:31 PM (see attached UPS tracking information) which was 7 days after we sent Mr. Zetsche a followup letter on October 12 with three times as many complaints as were in the original letter (283 versus 92). In the 9 days since our followup letter, we have gone to well over 300 complaints so Chrysler cannot dismiss this as a handful of complaints as it did in your October 15 letter.

Since Chrysler's response has been outdated by our more recent letter, let me address two points in your letter and ask that Chrysler respond to our second letter. First, we accept Chrysler's offer to review every 2.7L engine oil sludge complaint received by CAS including all 283 in our October 12 letter. However, asking consumers to call the 1-800-992-1997 is in the words of Steven Schiffhauer of Youngstown OH telling the consumer to "pound salt." I just called this number – it took 5 minutes to go through the voice mail menu options and was then given a 21 minutes estimated wait time. That's no way to treat a customer who has a multi-thousand dollar complaint. We gave you the addresses for each consumer and their VINs are on our website so Chrysler should contact every consumer rather than putting them through the voice mail treadmill.

Second, the majority of the 283 consumers who contacted us did not purchase their vehicles used. But even if they did, many of them purchased extended warranties from the selling Chrysler dealer only to be told their extended warranties would not cover oil sludge damage despite their maintenance records. We raised this as a major point entitled Catch 22 – Extended Warranty Will Not Cover in our second letter to Chrysler CEO Zetsche and ask that both you and he respond to it.

We do appreciate your letter as an initial step to addressing the Chrysler 2.7L oil sludge fiasco even if it was "a day late and a dollar short." Unlike a financial institution, we will give Chrysler another opportunity to rectify its error. We look forward to a full response to CAS' October 12 letter to Chrysler CEO Zetsche and redress for all victims of Chrysler's 2.7L engine.

Sincerely,

Charence Ditlow
Executive Director

or visit UPS.com®. O101911202609 6/00 M United Percel Service, Louisville, KY D NUMBER F55V 828R 8MV relating to liability and other terms and/or conditions established by the Convention for the United box or Certain States Resoung to International Cantage by Aur (Life Transact Conditions) AUBURN HILLS DAIMLERCHRYSLER 1000 CHRYSLER DR Washington, DC 1825 Connecticut Are., NW Center for Auto Safety Karl Grage Clarence Ditlow 55 4 8 2 hipping Document **UPS Worldwide Express** €80 0000-000 089 -9/6 ±000-000 TELEPHONE TELEPHONE 48326 2766 3000c 248-Masking on Octobo Stop sdn SATURDAY DELIVERY UPS Next Day Air 1Z F55 V82 22 1689 709 9 1Z F56 V82 22 1689 709 9 1Z F55 V82 22 1689 709 9 1Z F65 V82 22 1689 709 9 UPS Ground
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Package Progress:

Date/ Time	Location	Activity	
Oct 21, 2004			
10:27 A.M.	LANDOVER, DC, US	DELIVERY	
Oct 20, 2004			
6:59 A.M.	LANDOVER, MD, US	OUT FOR DELIVERY	
6:18 A.M.	LANDOVER, MD, US	ARRIVAL SCAN	
3:30 A.M.	PHILADELPHIA, PA, US	DEPARTURE SCAN	
12:08 A.M.	PHILADELPHIA, PA, US	ARRIVAL SCAN	
Oct 19, 2004	• •		
10:26 P.M.	ROMULUS, MI, US	DEPARTURE SCAN	
9:20 P.M.	ROMULUS, MI, US	ARRIVAL SCAN	
8:25 P.M.	PONTIAC, MI, US	DEPARTURE SCAN	
8:11 P.M.	PONTIAC, MI, US	ORIGIN SCAN	

Tracking results provided by UPS: Oct 21, 2004 11:42 A.M. Eastern Time (USA)

PONTIAC, MI, US

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