

Comment of Chris Valasek, Vehicle Security Researcher

June 2, 2015

I write to address one particular point raised in the comments filed at the Class 21 hearing: the availability of maintenance software and equipment.

Maintenance software and equipment is becoming much more expensive and sometimes very hard or impossible to acquire. For example, Dr. Charlie Miller and I needed to perform and analyze some diagnostics on a vehicle we were researching and the only viable option cost \$6700.00 USD. Additionally, certain manufacturers refuse to sell you such products if you're not an authorized dealer (requiring a dealer code to purchase the equipment). I myself have attempted to purchase such products from Nissan and been refused because I am not an authorized dealer. These two factors limit the amount of people who can acquire and use this equipment, especially when attempting to work on a specific vehicle.