



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration

DOT Auto Safety Hotline  
**Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire**  
To Report Vehicle Safety Defects  
1-888-DASH-2-DOT  
(1-888-327-4236)  
INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 1367

Date Received

2003 APR 23 PM 7  
10-MAR-2003

Repository

Reference No.  
10011266

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name

Address

City

HANSEN

State ID

Zip Code

Daytime Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Evening Telephone Number

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle?  YES  NO  
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.  
Signature of Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Date 4/10/03

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side  
887KF23D1VM56B638

Make  
DODGE

Model  
RAM

Model Year  
1997

Date Purchased  
10/02/97

Dealer's Name and Telephone Number  
Latham Motors 208 733-5776

Engine:  
No. Cylinders  
6

Fuel Type:  
Diesel

Original Owner

Dealer's City  
Twin Falls Idaho

State  
ID

Zip Code  
83301

Transmission Type  
5 speed

Antilock Brakes  
 Cruise Control

Powertrain

Vehicle Component Code

114200 ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:WIRING:INTERIOR/UNDER DASH

Multiple Failure: 1

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s)  
28-FEB-2003

Failure Mileage  
133400

Failure Speed

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make

Tire Model (Name or Number)

Tire Size (Example P215/85R15)

DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036)

Original Equipment  
 Prior Repair

Failure Location: *Passenger side under dash electrical*

Tire Component Code

Tire Failure Type

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make:

Date Manufactured:

Model No./Name:

Seat Type:

Installation System:

Child Seat Component Code:

Failed Part:

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(ies).)

Crash  
 Yes  No

Fire  
 Yes  No

Number of Persons Injured  
0

Number of Deaths  
0

Reported to Police  
N Yes

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).  
Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure, i.e. parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

THE VEHICLE HAD AN ELECTRICAL SHORTAGE UNDER THE DASHBOARD, WHICH RESULTED IN A FIRE. JB  
I contacted Chrysler Division They sent a inspector out he took more pictures. I took some during the time & he took those pictures also His name was Dale Harper from Twin Falls my Site No with Chrysler is No. 110 433 61 called them 3/11/03 Talked to [redacted]

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a Manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

# DAIMLERCHRYSLER

DaimlerChrysler  
Motors Company LLC

March 24, 2003

[REDACTED]  
Hansen, ID [REDACTED]

Reference No.: 11043361  
VIN: 3B7KF23D1VM569638

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

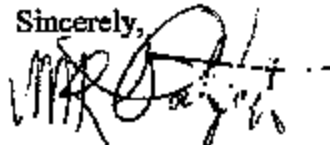
This will acknowledge your recent contact to DaimlerChrysler Motors Corporation regarding your 1997 Dodge Ram 2500.

We have reviewed your recent fire report with deep concern. Needless to say, we sincerely regret the unfortunate fire that occurred. After our inspection of your vehicle, the information at hand would not permit us to associate the fire with a manufacturing or assembly error. We are sure you will appreciate, fires of this nature can and do occur for a number of reasons not associated with the manufacturing process.

Based on this information, we can only suggest that you refer this matter to your insurance carrier. Should they feel a manufacturing responsibility exists, they have full subrogation rights under the terms of your policy.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity in reviewing this matter with you.

Sincerely,



M. R. Porterfield  
Special Investigations  
(248) 944-7134

MRP/mtr

*called 4/1/03*

*over please*

4/03/03

To whom,

I called Mr. Portenfield on 4/01/03 I asked if he knew what may have caused the fire. He said an old 5yr of a pickup it was and all the miles on it 133,400 he didn't know what it would have been. I told him I had a 74 ford pickup with 266,000 miles on it & it didn't burn up yet. I asked if there was any one else to talk to like a second opinion & he tried to ignore me then. at that time I was very up set with the deal. I would like to know if any more people have had problems like mine. Burning up. If you can give me any information on this I would appreciate it

Thanks



