



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 100145

Date Received: 23 DEC 2003

Repository ☐

23-DEC-2003

Reference No.
10051960

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name

Address

City BATON ROUGE

State LA

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 1/14/2004

VEHICLE INFORMATION

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

PLEASE FILL IN

Make
DODGE

Model
RAM 1500

Model Year
1998

Date Purchased
SEPT 3, 1997

Dealer's Name and Telephone Number

LAMARQUE DODGE 504-888-4888

Engine:
No. Cylinders

V6

Fuel Type:

REG.

ANLEJ

Original Owner

☒

Dealer's City

MEATIER

State

LA

Zip Code

70006

Transmission Type

AUTO
MATIC

☒ Antilock Brakes

☒ Cruise Control

Powertrain

REAR

Vehicle Component Code

021540 SUSPENSION:FRONT:CONTROL ARM:LOWER BALL JOINT S

Multiple Failure: 5 TIMES TWO TIRE ON 1998 DRIVE SHAFTS

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s)

2002-2003

Failure Mileage

38,000-42,000

Failure Speed

40 m/h.

BALL JOINT TOP LOCKER - DRIVER SIDE

SIDE - DRIVER SIDE UPPER BALL JOINT COARS

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make

Tire Model (Name or Number)

Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)

DOT No. (Example: DOTM15ABC036)

☐ Original Equipment
☐ Prior Repair

Failure Location:

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

(Check boxes to indicate the incident(s) that apply. Leave blank if none apply.)

Crash

☐ Yes ☒ No

Fire

☐ Yes ☒ No

Number of Persons Injured

0

Number of Deaths

0

Reported to Police

N

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'S LOWER BALL JOINTS FAILED AT 40,000 MILES. THE CAUSE HAS YET TO BE DETERMINED. PLEASE PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. *NLM 8-2-2002 38,000
ON 8-28-2003 UPPER BALL JOINT FAILED; THE DRIVER SIDE GOT OFF THE SEAT, THE OTHER ONE ON THE SEAT, BUT ALL QUADRA-STEER THROUS ARE ORIGINAL BALL JOINT THAT CAME WITH THE TRUCK. IN CONCLUSION I HAD AND I HAVE PROBLEM WITH BALL JOINTS. AT MOMENT THE BOTTOM BALL JOINTS (LOWER) ARE O.K. THE TOP BALL JOINT PASSENGER SIDE IS O.K. THE TOP BALL JOINT DRIVER SIDE COME OUT OF THE SUSPENSION SEAT. TWO TIRE SO MY TRUCK IS IN EXCELLENT CONDITION LIKE NEW BUT PROBLEM WITH BALL JOINT

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

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-597) 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.

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies)

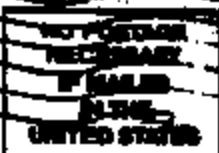
ON 8-18-2002 I DISCOVER THAT THE BALL JOINTS (LOWER)
 DRIVER SIDE A PASSENGER SIDE HAD PROBLEM, ALL GEARBOX OUT. I PURCHASE
 TWO NEW ONE AND A MECHANIC CERTIFIED SHOP REPLACED MYLOT 38,000
 ON OCT. 28. 2003 I WAS DRIVING AT ABOUT 40 MILE/HOUR IN PAVED
 STREET WHEN I HEARD A LOUD NOISE FROM THE BOTTOM FRONT OF THE
 TRUCK. I STOPPED INSPECT AND FOUND THAT THE DRIVER SIDE UPPER
 BALL JOINT WAS OUT OF THE SUSPENSION AND GEARBOX OUT, THE PASSENGER
 SIDE BALL JOINT UPPER STILL THE SUSPENSION BUT ALL GEARBOX OUT (MILES 42,500)
 I PURCHASED TWO NEW ONE (UPPER BALL JOINT) SAME AUTO PARTS LIKE THE LOWER
 BEFORE (NAPA). THE SAME MECHANIC SHOP (CERTIFICATES) REPLACED THE TWO BALL
 JOINT. ON DEC. 28. 2003 I FOUND IN TIME TO WASH THE TRUCK THAT BALL JOINT
 (UPPER) ON DRIVER SIDE HAD GEARBOX AND WITH THIS ONE WAS THE #5 THAT HAD
 TO BE REPLACED. THE FIRST TIME A SECOND TIME OF FAILURE/DAMAGED BALL JOINT ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Circle 5: Business
Reply for Private Use \$200



BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO 73173 WASHINGTON, D.C.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY NATL. HWY. TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN.

U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation, NVS-216
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590



**VEHICLE
OWNER'S
QUESTIONNAIRE**

DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE

TO REPORT VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECTS
COMPLETE THIS FORM
OR

DASH2DOT

and dial toll free at

1-888-DASH-2-DOT

1-888-327-4236

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
(DASH) 2 DOT



U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration
http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/defects