



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 100148

Date Received: 06 NOV 2005
Repository:
Reference No.: 10142855

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: CATHEDRAL CITY State: CA Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Daytime Telephone Number: [REDACTED] E-mail Address:
Evening Telephone Number: SAME

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? YES NO
In the absence of an address to the vehicle manufacturer, Signature of Owner: [REDACTED] Date: 11/21/05

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side: 1B7GL22X2X5 [REDACTED]
Make: DODGE Model: DAKOTA Model Year: 1999
Date Purchased: 01-JUN-99 Dealer's Name and Telephone Number: CRYSTAL CHRYSLER 760-324-4557 Engine: No: Cylinders: 6 Fuel Type: Gas
Original Owner: Dealer's City: CATHEDRAL CITY State: CA Zip Code: 92234
Transmission Type: AUTOMATIC Antilock Brakes Cruise Control Powertrain: REAR WHEEL DRIVE Vehicle Component Code: 021540 SUSPENSION:FRONT:CONTROL ARM:LOWER BALL JOINT Multiple Failure: 1

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s): 10-NOV-2005 Failure Mileage: 20000 Failure Speed: N/A UPPER AND LOWER BALL JOINT FAILED. USE REPAIRS ATTACHED

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make: [REDACTED] Tire Model (Name or Number): [REDACTED] Tire Size (Example P215/65R15): [REDACTED]
DOT No. (Example: DOTMALSABC036): [REDACTED] Original Equipment Prior Repair Failure Location: [REDACTED]
Tire Component Code: [REDACTED] Tire Failure Type: [REDACTED]

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make: [REDACTED] Date Manufactured: [REDACTED] Model No./Name: [REDACTED]
Seat Type: [REDACTED] Installation System: [REDACTED]
Child Seat Component Code: [REDACTED] Failed Part: [REDACTED]

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

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

Crash: Yes No Fire: Yes No Number of Persons Injured: [REDACTED] Number of Deaths: [REDACTED] 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).

DT: THE CONTACT STATED VEHICLE WOULD NOT STAY IN ALIGNMENT. IT MADE LOUD POPPING AND SNAPPING SOUNDS WHEN MAKING TURNS. UPON INSPECTION THE UPPER BALL JOINT GREASE SEAL COMPLETELY DISINTEGRATED. THE LOWER BALL JOINTS HAD UP AND DOWN PLAY, WHICH CAUSED EXCESSIVE WEAR ON THE TIRES. BOTH UPPER AND LOWER BALL JOINTS WERE REPLACED AT THE CONTACT'S EXPENSE. THE MANUFACTURER OFFERED AN EXTENDED WARRANTY FOR MODEL YEARS 2000-2002 TWO WHEEL DRIVE ONLY. HOWEVER, THIS DID NOT COVER THIS MODEL YEAR. ADDITIONALLY, THERE WAS NHTSA RECALL 04V596000 CONCERNING UPPER BALL JOINTS. THIS RECALL WAS FOR MODEL YEARS 2000-2002 FOUR WHEEL DRIVE MODELS ONLY. THE CONTACT FELT THE EXTENDED WARRANTY OR RECALL SHOULD APPLY TO THIS VEHICLE BECAUSE IT EXPERIENCED THE SAME PROBLEMS. 7AK

ALSO CHRYSLER COMPLAINT REF. # 14275877
PHONE# 1800 992-1997 CUSTOMER CARE (NO HELP AT ALL)

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.

**THE ATTACHMENTS TO THIS
DOCUMENT HAVE BEEN REMOVED
TO PROTECT UNWARRANTED
INVASION OF PERSONAL PRIVACY
PURSUANT TO EXEMPTION 6 OF
THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).**