

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

December 10, 1999

Mr. Kenneth N. Weinstein
Associate Administrator, Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

DaimlerChrysler Corporation

Susan M. Cischke
Sr. Vice President
Regulatory Affairs &
Passenger Car Operations

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Reference: NHTSA Identification Number 99V-115

Enclosed are representative copies of communications relating to the 1994 through 1999 model year vehicles involved in the referenced recall. DaimlerChrysler expects to begin owner notification during the week of December 27, 1999. The exact number of manufactured vehicles in the recall is 8,883.

The Involved Vehicle Identification Number range is:

<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>
RS530432	RS739319		
SS103818	SS388857	SM100024	SM189229
TJ100085	TJ200213	TM100607	TM198089
TS500049	TS716694		
VJ500008	VJ629830	VM500021	VM599211
WJ100088	WJ263584	WM200021	WM294437
WG100234	WG239571		
XJ500020	XJ631972	XM500599	XM576787
XG106669	XG209047		

(VIN last eight characters) - R = 1994 Model Year; S = 1995 Model Year; T = 1996 Model Year; V = 1997 Model Year; W = 1998 Model Year; X = 1999 Model Year; S = Warren Truck Assembly Plant, Warren, Michigan; J = St. Louis South Assembly Plant, Fenton, Missouri; G = Saltillo Truck Assembly Plant, Saltillo, Mexico; M = Lago Alberto Truck Assembly Plant, Lago Alberto, Mexico; and last six digits = sequential number.

We caution that the above range represents only the lowest and highest VIN sequential numbers included in the recall. This range cannot be used to determine conclusively that a vehicle is involved in the recall because most vehicles with a VIN within the range are not affected by the recall.

This completes DaimlerChrysler's package of information for this recall as required by the Defects Report Regulation.

Sincerely,



S.M. Cischke

Enclosure: Recall #828

cc: K. C. DeMeter

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OFFICE INVESTIGATION
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

December 1999

Dealer Service Instructions for:

Safety Recall No. 828 – Hydraulic Clutch

Models

1994-1999 (BR/BE) Dodge Ram Four-Wheel Drive (4WD) Trucks

NOTE: This recall applies only to the above vehicles equipped with an 8.0L engine ("W" in the 8th VIN Position) and a manual transmission (Sales Code – DDX) built through April 21, 1999 (MDH 0421XX).

IMPORTANT: Some of the involved vehicles may be in dealer new vehicle inventory. Federal law requires you to stop sale and complete this recall service on these vehicles before retail delivery. Dealers should also consider this requirement to apply to used vehicle inventory and should perform this recall on vehicles in for service as determined by using the DIAL VIP System.

Subject

The hydraulic clutch line on about 8,800 of the above vehicles may melt and spray hydraulic fluid on the exhaust system under certain operating conditions. Hydraulic fluid leakage in the presence of an ignition source (such as the exhaust system) can result in an underbody fire.

Repair

The hydraulic clutch master cylinder, slave cylinder and clutch line must be replaced.

Parts Information

Each dealer to whom vehicles in the recall were invoiced (or the current dealer at the same street address) will receive enough Hydraulic Clutch Packages to service about 25% of those vehicles.

The appropriate clutch package for the vehicle to be serviced may be determined by model year as follows:

Model Year	10 th VIN Position Character	Part Code	Part Number
1994, 1995, 1996, 1997	R, S, T, V	1	CAAM8281
1998, 1999	W, X	2	CAAA8282

Each package contains the following components:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Clutch Master Cylinder
1	Clutch Slave Cylinder
1	Clutch Pedal Clip
1	Clutch Pedal Bushing (94-97 package only)
2	Clamps
2	Screws
3	Plastic Rivets

Service Procedure

1. Raise the vehicle on an appropriate hoist.
2. Remove the nuts that attach the clutch slave cylinder to the clutch housing (Figure 1).
3. Remove the slave cylinder from the clutch housing.
4. Remove the clutch line clip(s) from the lower body flange (Figure 1).
5. Push the slave cylinder up around the exhaust pipe and into the engine compartment.
6. Lower the vehicle.
7. Inside the passenger compartment, disconnect the clutch pedal interlock switch wiring connector.
8. For 1994-1997 vehicles, remove the locating pin that secures the master cylinder to the dash panel (Figure 2).
9. Remove the retaining clip, and on 1994-1997 vehicles, remove the plastic bushing that attaches the clutch master cylinder push rod to the clutch pedal pivot pin. Discard the clip and bushing.
10. Disconnect the clutch master cylinder push rod from the clutch pedal pivot pin.
11. Inside the engine compartment, verify that the clutch reservoir cap is tight.
12. Remove the two (2) clutch reservoir mounting screws (Figure 1).

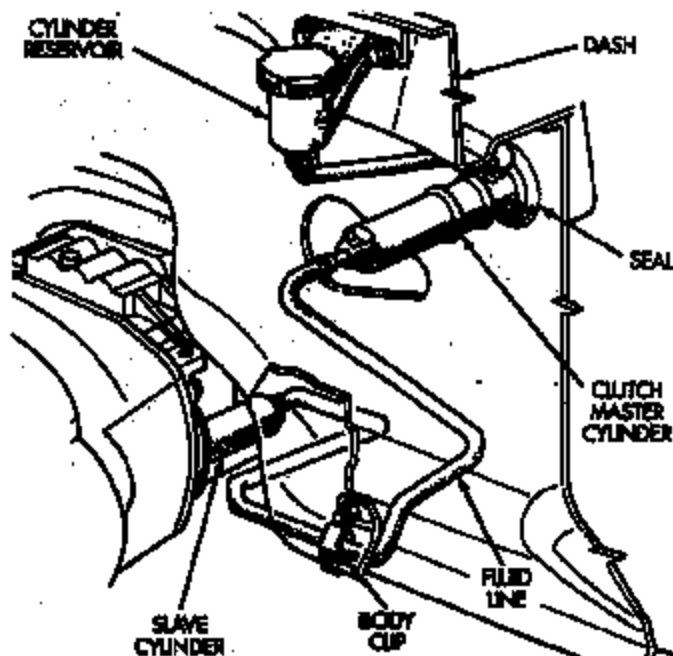


Figure 1

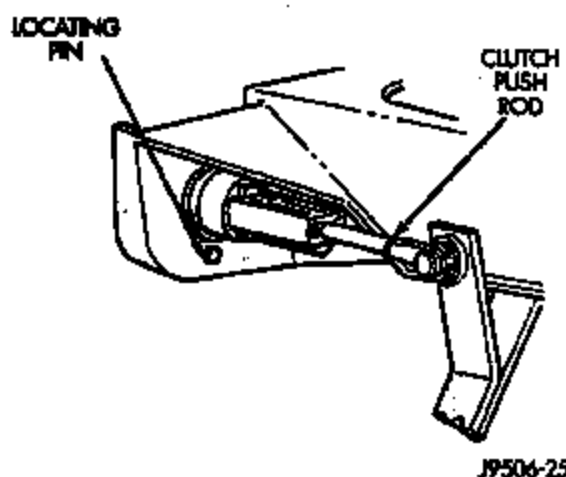


Figure 2

Service Procedure (Continued)

13. Remove the clutch master cylinder as follows (Figure 1):
 - **For 1994 through 1997 model year vehicles:** Rotate the master cylinder 45 degrees counter-clockwise to unlock it and then remove the master cylinder from the dash panel.
 - **For 1998 and 1999 model year vehicles:** From inside the passenger compartment, remove the master cylinder bracket nuts that attach the master cylinder to the dash panel. In the engine compartment, remove the master cylinder from the dash panel.
14. Remove the hydraulic clutch assembly (master cylinder, slave cylinder, reservoir and hydraulic line) from the vehicle. Discard the hydraulic clutch assembly.
15. Verify that the reservoir cap on the new clutch master cylinder is tight.
16. Connect the new clutch slave cylinder portion of the clutch line to the new master cylinder portion by connecting the quick connect fitting. Pull back on the fitting to ensure that the connection is secure.
17. Position the new clutch master cylinder into the vehicle so that the clutch line quick connect fitting is located downward against the lower dash panel and rearward of the inner fender (Figure 3).
18. Install the clutch master cylinder as follows:
 - **For 1994 through 1997 model year vehicles:** Install the master cylinder into the dash panel and then rotate the master cylinder 45 degrees clockwise to lock it in place.
 - **For 1998 and 1999 model year vehicles:** Install the master cylinder into the dash panel and then, from inside the passenger compartment, install the master cylinder bracket nuts to attach the master cylinder to the dash panel. Tighten the bracket nuts to 40 ft-lbs (54 N·m).
19. Install the clutch reservoir onto the dash panel. Tighten the reservoir screws to 60 in-lbs (7 N·m).
20. Inside the passenger compartment, apply a light coating of grease to the clutch pedal pivot pin.

Service Procedure (Continued)

21. Slide the master cylinder push rod onto the clutch pedal pivot pin, install the plastic pivot bushing into the push rod eyelet (1994-1997 vehicles only), and then secure the push rod to the pivot with the provided retaining clip.

22. For 1994-1997 vehicles, install the original locating pin to secure the master cylinder to the dash panel (Figure 2).

NOTE: If a new pin is required, order P/N 06029645.

23. Connect the clutch pedal interlock switch wiring connector.

24. Raise the vehicle.

25. Route the flexible clutch line along the REAR side of the lower body flange and OVER the fuel line (Figure 3).

26. Install the new slave cylinder into the clutch housing but do NOT remove the push rod shipping strap. Tighten the slave cylinder nuts to 17 ft-lbs (23 N-m).

27. Remove the fuel line heat shield located on the inside of the left frame rail (Figure 4). Slide the heat shield rearward to access the lower body flange.

28. Remove the rearmost three (3) plastic rivets from the left front wheel well splash shield. Pull the splash shield forward to access the lower body flange.

29. Drill two (2) $\frac{1}{8}$ " pilot holes through the lower body flange as shown in Figure 3.

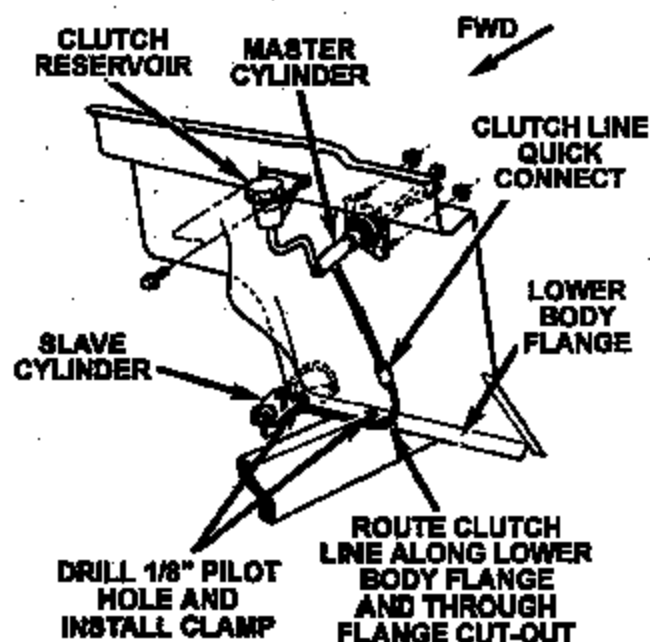


Figure 3

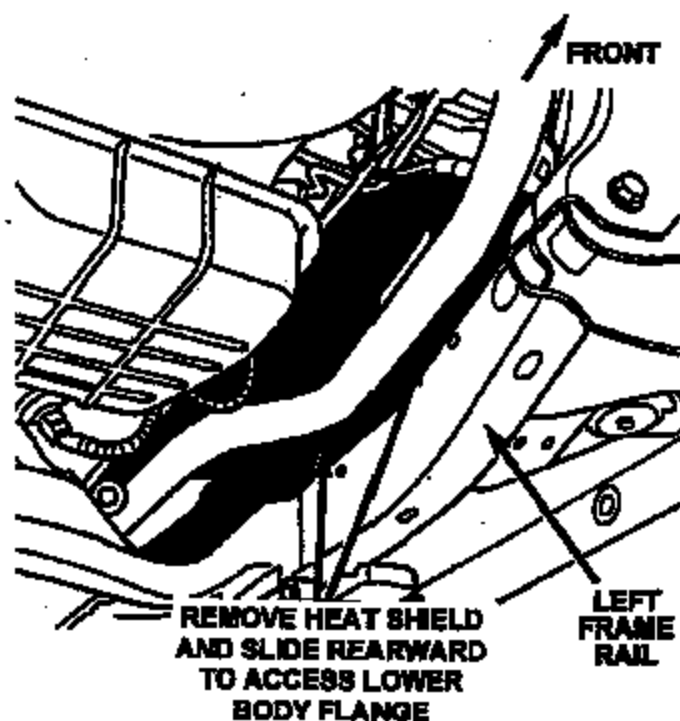


Figure 4

Service Procedure (Continued)

30. Install the provided clamps over the clutch line heat wrap convolute and attach the clamps to the lower body flange with the provided screws. Tighten the screws to 60 in-lbs (7 N·m).

NOTE: Install the inboard clamp first. Make sure that the clutch line is routed through the lower body flange cutout (Figure 3).

31. Install the left front wheel well splash shield using the new plastic rivets.
32. Install the fuel line heat shield (Figure 4).
33. Lower the vehicle.
34. Cycle the clutch pedal several times to assure proper operation.
35. Check all hydraulic clutch connections to ensure that there are no leaks.

Completion Reporting and Reimbursement

Claims for vehicles that have been serviced must be submitted on the DIAL System. Claims submitted will be used by DaimlerChrysler to record recall service completions and provide dealer payments.

Use one of the following labor operation numbers and time allowances:

	Labor Operation Number	Time Allowance
Replace hydraulic clutch		
• 1994-1997 model years	06828182	0.8 hours
• 1998-1999 model years	06828183	0.9 hours

Add the cost of the recall parts package plus applicable dealer allowance to your claim.

NOTE: See the Warranty Administration Manual, Recall Claim Processing Section, for complete recall claim processing instructions.

Parts Return

Not required.

Dealer Notification and Vehicle List

All dealers will receive a copy of this dealer recall notification letter by first class mail. Two additional copies will be sent through the DCMMS, and the MDS2 will be updated to include this recall in the near future. **Each dealer to whom involved vehicles were invoiced (or the current dealer at the same street address) will receive a list of their involved vehicles.** The vehicle list is arranged in Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) sequence. Owners known to DaimlerChrysler are also listed. The lists are for dealer reference in arranging for service of involved vehicles.

DIAL System Functions 53 and VIP

All involved vehicles will be entered to DIAL System Functions 53 and VIP at the time of recall implementation for dealer inquiry as needed.

Function 53 provides involved dealers with an updated VIN list of **their incomplete** vehicles. The customer name, address and phone number are listed if known. Completed vehicles are removed from Function 53 within several days of repair claim submission. To use this system, type "53" at the "ENTER FUNCTION" prompt, then type "ORD828".

Owner Notification and Service Scheduling

All involved vehicle owners known to DaimlerChrysler are being notified of the service requirement by first class mail. They are requested to schedule appointments for this service with their dealers. A copy of the owner notification letter is attached.

Enclosed with each owner notification is an Owner Notification Form. The involved vehicle and recall are identified on the form for owner or dealer reference as needed.

Vehicle Not Available

If a vehicle is not available for service, let us know by filling out the pre-addressed Owner Notification Form or describe the reason on a postcard and mail to:

DaimlerChrysler Corporation
CIMS 482-00-85
800 Chrysler Drive East
Auburn Hills, Michigan 48326-2757

Additional Information

If you have any questions or need assistance in completing this action, please contact your Zone Service Office.

Customer Services Field Operations
DaimlerChrysler Corporation

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

SAFETY RECALL TO REPLACE YOUR TRUCK'S HYDRAULIC CLUTCH

Dear Dodge Ram Truck Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

DaimlerChrysler Corporation has determined that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in some 1994 through 1999 model year Dodge Ram four-wheel drive trucks equipped with an 8.0L V-10 engine and a manual transmission.

The problem is...

The hydraulic clutch line on your Ram truck (identified on the enclosed form) may melt and spray hydraulic fluid on the exhaust system under certain operating conditions. Hydraulic fluid leakage in the presence of an ignition source (such as the exhaust system) can result in an underbody fire.

What DaimlerChrysler and your dealer will do...

DaimlerChrysler will repair your vehicle free of charge (parts and labor). To do this, your dealer will replace the hydraulic clutch assembly. The work will take about one hour to complete. However, additional time may be necessary depending on how dealer appointments are scheduled and processed.

What you must do to ensure your safety...

- Simply contact your dealer right away to schedule a service appointment. Ask the dealer to hold the parts for your vehicle or to order them before your appointment.
- Bring the enclosed Owner Notification Form with you to your dealer. It identifies the required service to the dealer.

If you need help...

If, after contacting your local dealership, you have questions or concerns which the dealership is unable to resolve, please contact the DaimlerChrysler Customer Assistance Center at 1-800-992-1997. A representative will assist you in getting your vehicle repaired. If your dealer fails or is unable to remedy this defect without charge and within a reasonable time, you may submit a written complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590, or call the Toll Free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-800-424-9393. Washington, DC area residents may call 1-202-366-0123.

We're sorry for any inconvenience, but we are sincerely concerned about your safety. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Customer Services Field Operations
DaimlerChrysler Corporation

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*Buckle up
for Safety*