

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

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DaimlerChrysler Corporation
OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

May 10, 2002

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

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Reference: NHTSA Identification Number 02V-042

Enclosed are representative copies of communications relating to the 2001 model year vehicles involved in the referenced recall. DaimlerChrysler expects to begin owner notification during the week of May 20, 2002. The exact number of manufactured vehicles in the recall is 267,821.

The involved Vehicle Identification Number range is:

<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>
1G149290	1G717734
1J118575	1J529545
1M212420	1M510804
1S100082	1S801011

(VIN last eight characters) - 1 = 2001; G = Saltillo Assembly Plant, Saltillo Mexico; J = St. Louis Assembly Plant North, Fenton Missouri; M = Lago Alberto Assembly Plant, Mexico City Mexico; S = Dodge City Assembly Plant, Warren Michigan; and the 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,



Stephan J. Speth, Director
Vehicle Compliance and Safety Affairs

Enclosure: Recall #B04

cc: K. C. DeMeter

02V-042

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

May 2002

Dealer Service Instructions for:

Safety Recall No. B04 - Power Distribution Center Cable Connections

Models

2001 (BR/BE) Dodge Ram Truck

NOTE: This recall applies only to the above trucks built through August 28, 2000 (MDH 082800).

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. Involved vehicles can be determined by using the DIAL VIP System.

Subject

The Power Distribution Center (PDC) generator cable connection on about 268,000 of the above vehicles may loosen. A loose generator cable connection can cause an underhood fire.

Repair

The generator and battery cable terminals in the PDC must be inspected and repositioned if necessary. If electrical arcing at the generator cable connection has occurred, the PDC stud, nut and buss bar may need to be replaced.

Parts Information

Power Distribution Center Repair Package

Part Number Description

CBS1B040 Power Distribution Center Repair Package

Each package contains the following components:

Quantity Description

1	PDC Stud
1	Bus Bar
1	Nut
1	Screw

Each dealer to whom vehicles in the recall were invoiced will receive ONE (1) Power Distribution Center Repair Package. Additional Power Distribution Center Repair packages may be ordered as required. *Very few vehicles are expected to require Power Distribution Center stud replacement.*

Service Procedure

A. Power Distribution Center Inspection

1. Open the hood.
2. With the ignition key in the “OFF” position, disconnect the negative battery cable(s).

CAUTION: Vehicles equipped with a diesel engine have two batteries. The negative battery terminal on both batteries must be disconnected.

NOTE: To enhance customer satisfaction, remember to reset the clock when you have completed the service procedure.

3. Remove the cover from the Power Distribution Center (PDC). The PDC is located on the left (driver’s) side of the engine compartment, next to the battery (Figure 1).

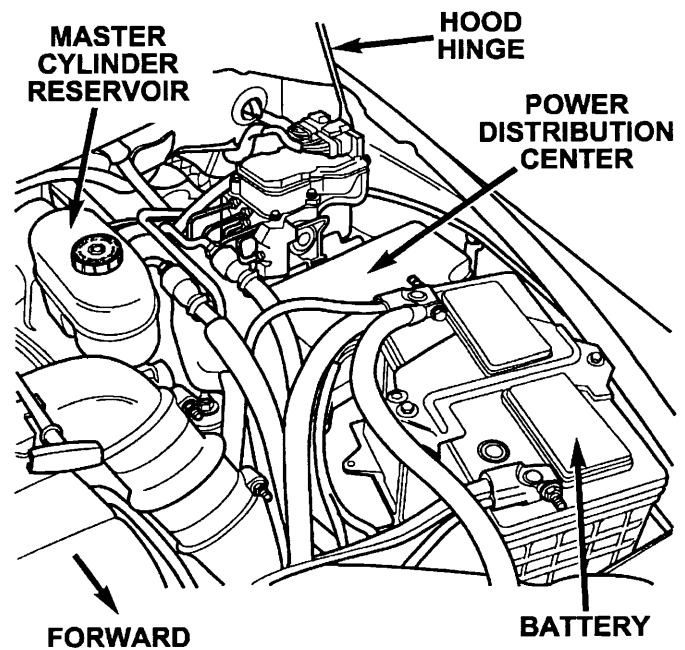


Figure 1 – Diesel Engine Shown

Service Procedure (Continued)

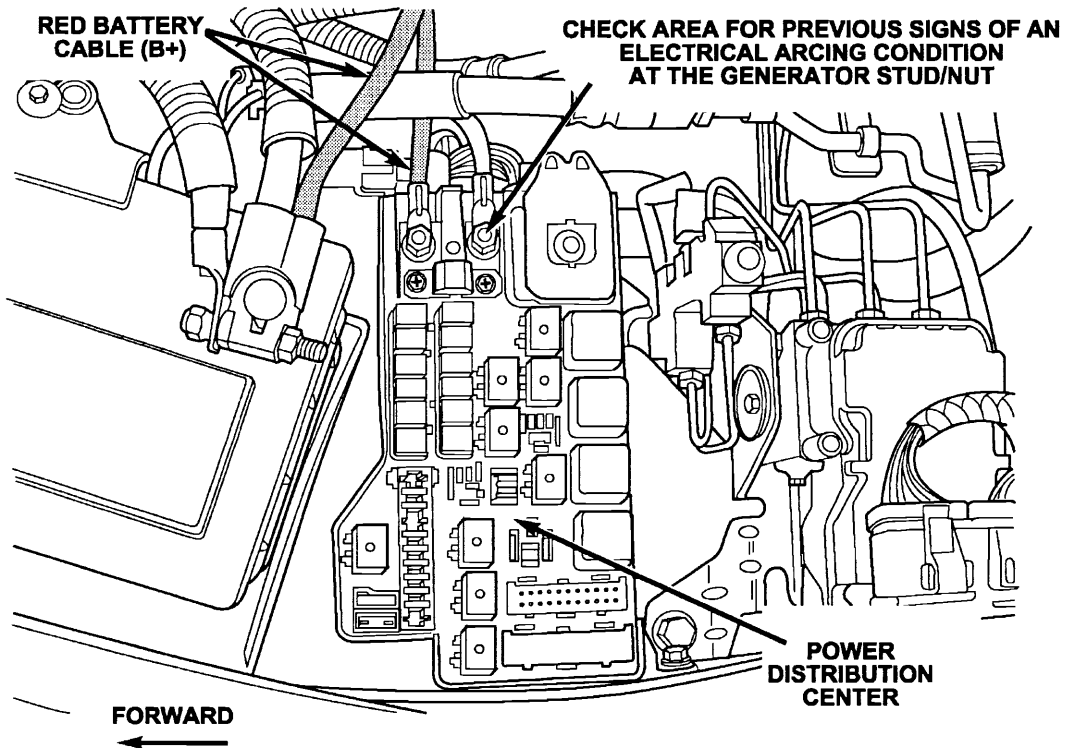


Figure 2 – Top View

4. Inspect the black generator cable connection and the surrounding area on the Power Distribution Center for signs of previous electrical arcing (Figure 2).
 - If there are **no signs of a previous electrical arcing condition** at the Power Distribution Center generator connection, continue with Step 5 of this procedure.
 - If there are **signs of a previous electrical arcing condition** at the Power Distribution Center generator connection and the buss bar, stud and/or nut require replacement, continue with Section “B – Power Distribution Center Stud Repair.” *Very few vehicles are expected to require Power Distribution Center stud repair.*

Service Procedure (Continued)

5. Inspect the black generator cable and red battery cable (B+) terminals. They both must be oriented so that the cable crimp openings are facing upward, away from the PDC housing (Figure 3). If either (or both) of the terminals are installed with the crimp opening facing downward, remove the retaining nut, lift the terminal off of the stud and reinstall the cable terminal(s) onto the stud with the crimp facing up as shown in Figure 3.

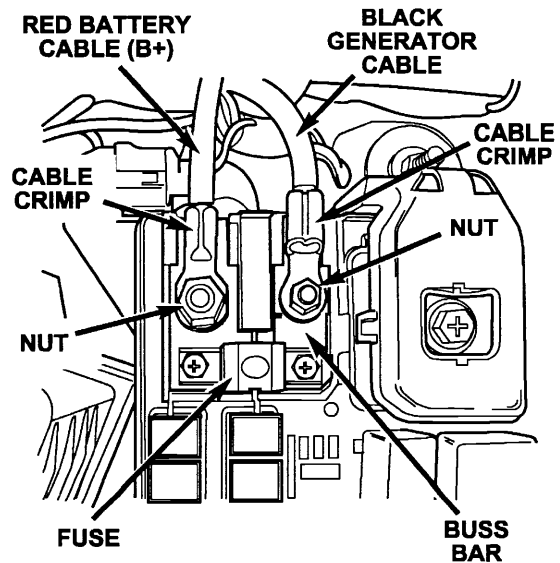


Figure 3 – Top View

6. Install the cable terminal retaining nut(s). Tighten the nut(s) to 80 in. lbs. (9 N·m).

7. If the generator and battery cable terminals are oriented correctly, verify that both retaining nuts are tight. Tighten both retaining nuts to 80 in. lbs. (9 N·m).

8. Install the PDC cover onto the PDC housing.

9. Connect the negative battery cable(s).

- **On trucks equipped with a gas engine**, tighten battery clamp nut to 35 in. lbs. (4 N·m).
- **On trucks equipped with a diesel engine**, tighten the battery clamp nuts to 80 in. lbs. (9 N·m).

10. Close the hood.

11. Return the vehicle to the customer, no further action is required.

Service Procedure (Continued)

B. Power Distribution Center Stud Repair

NOTE: The following procedure is required if the PDC buss bar, stud and/or nut for the generator cable require replacement per the inspection in Section “A.” *Very few vehicles are expected to require this repair.*

1. Remove the black generator cable retaining nut.
2. Lift the black generator cable terminal up off of the stud.
3. Remove the two fuse retaining screws. Save the screws for use during installation.
4. Remove the fuse (Figure 3). Save the fuse for reinstallation.
5. Carefully pry the buss bar from the PDC housing. Discard the old buss bar.

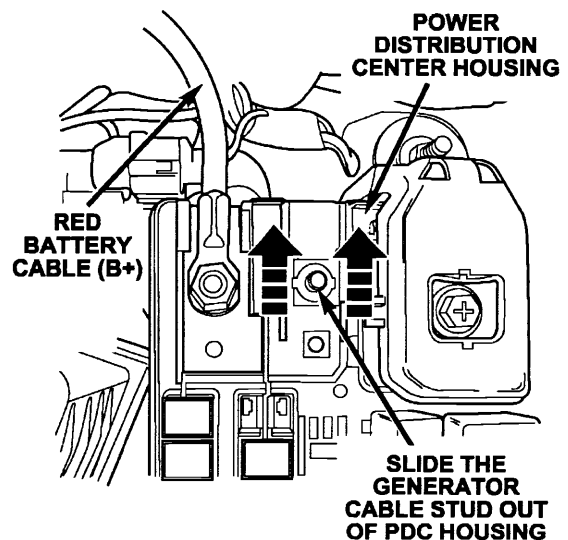


Figure 4 – Top View

6. Slide the generator cable stud out of the PDC housing and discard stud (Figure 4).
7. Slide the new generator cable stud into the PDC housing.
8. Snap the new bus bar into place.
9. Position the fuse across the battery bus bar and the generator bus bar and install the retaining screws. Tighten the fuse retaining screws to 30 in. lbs. (3.5 N·m).
10. With the terminal crimp opening facing upward, away from the PDC housing, place the generator cable terminal over the stud and install the retaining nut (Figure 3).
11. Tighten the generator cable terminal nut to 80 in. lbs. (9 N·m).

Service Procedure (Continued)

12. Verify that the red battery cable (B+) terminal crimp opening is facing upward (Figure 3). Remove the retaining nut and reposition the cable terminal if required. Verify that the retaining nut is tight by torquing the retaining nut to 80 in. lbs. (9 N·m).
13. Install the PDC cover onto the PDC housing.
14. Connect the negative battery cable(s).
 - **On trucks equipped with a gas engine**, tighten battery clamp nut to 35 in. lbs. (4 N·m).
 - **On trucks equipped with a diesel engine**, tighten the battery clamp nuts to 80 in. lbs. (9 N·m).
15. Close the hood.

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:

	<u>Labor Operation Number</u>	<u>Time Allowance</u>
Reposition and tighten generator and battery B+ cable	08-B0-41-82	0.2 hours
Replace PDC stud and tighten generator and battery B+ cable	08-B0-41-83	0.2 hours

Add the cost of the recall parts package (if necessary) 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 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 have been entered to DIAL System Functions 53 and VIP 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 “ORDB04”.

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 letter is attached.

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

Dealers are encouraged to consider alternative scheduling and servicing approaches for this recall. This repair does not require hoists or other full service facility special equipment and is a DaimlerChrysler Mobile Service approved repair.

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 INSPECT AND REPAIR YOUR TRUCK'S POWER DISTRIBUTION CENTER CABLE CONNECTIONS

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 **2001 model year Dodge Ram Pick Up Trucks**.

The problem is...

The Power Distribution Center generator cable connection on your truck (identified on the enclosed form) may loosen. A loose generator cable connection could cause an underhood 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 inspect and repair the battery and generator cable connections at the Power Distribution Center. The work will take about ½ 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 form with you to your dealer.** It identifies the required service to the dealer.

If you need help...

If you have questions or concerns which the dealer is unable to resolve, please contact the DaimlerChrysler Customer Assistance Center at 1-800-853-1403. A representative will assist you.

If you have already experienced the problem described above and have paid to have it repaired, you may send your original receipts and/or other adequate proof of payment to the following address for reimbursement: DaimlerChrysler Customer Assistance Center, P.O. Box 1040, St. Charles, MO 63302-1040, Attention: Reimbursement.

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 1-888-327-4236.

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

***Buckle up
for Safety***

Customer Services Field Operations
DaimlerChrysler Corporation
B04