

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

DaimlerChrysler Corporation

Stephan J. Speth

Director
Vehicle Compliance & Safety Affairs

December 15, 2003

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 03V-504

Enclosed are representative copies of communications relating to the 2000 and 2001 model year vehicles involved in the referenced recall. DaimlerChrysler expects to begin owner notification during the week of December 22, 2003. The exact number of manufactured vehicles in the recall is 214.

The involved Vehicle Identification Number range is:


<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>
YS505947	YS649864
1S120560	1S785988

(VIN last eight characters) - Y = 2000 model year; 1 = 2001 model year; 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 #C40

cc: K. C. DeMeter

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

December 2003

Dealer Service Instructions for:

Safety Recall No. C40 - Tire Replacement

Models

2000-2001 (BR) Dodge Ram 1500 4WD Pick-up Truck

NOTE: This recall applies only to the above vehicles equipped with snowplow prep. package (sales code AHH).

IMPORTANT: Some of the involved vehicles may be in dealer used vehicle inventory. **Dealers should complete this recall service on these vehicles before retail delivery.** Dealers should also perform this recall on vehicles in for service. Involved vehicles can be determined by using the VIP inquiry process.

Subject

About 200 of the above vehicles fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 120 – Tire Selection and Rims for Motor Vehicles Other Than Passenger Cars. The tires installed on these vehicles have a maximum weight rating that is lower than the ratings specified on the vehicle certification label. Loading these vehicles to the ratings on the certification label can cause tire failure and result in a crash without warning.

Repair

All tires (including the full size spare) must be replaced with the correct size tires. This repair is limited to a one-time tire replacement and balance. There are to be NO pro-rated tire adjustments for this repair.

Parts Information

Each truck requires five (5) P245/75R16 OWL Goodyear Wrangler RT-S tires (Goodyear Product Code 137694076).

Dealers must contact the Mopar T.L.R.E. Works Hotline at 1-866-877-TIRE to order the tires listed above. Do not attempt to order tires through the Mopar Parts GPOP System.

Valve Stems, PN 02073355, may be ordered through the Mopar Parts GPOP system as needed. Enter the part number and applicable dealer allowance to your claim.

Service Procedure

NOTE: Before performing this service procedure, verify the vehicle owner's tire sidewall preference (raised white lettering on the outside or inside of tire).

1. Remove the full size spare from its storage location.
2. Raise the vehicle on an appropriate hoist and remove all four wheels.
3. Dismount all five tires from their wheels.
4. If necessary, remove and replace the valve stems.
5. Mount the five new tires on the original wheels and then inflates all the tires to 35 psi (241 kPa).
6. Using appropriate tire balancing equipment, balance all five wheels.

CAUTION: Follow the tire balancing equipment manufacturer's instructions to safely and properly balance the tires.

Service Procedure

7. Install the wheel and tire assemblies on the vehicle. Tighten the lug nuts to 95 ft. lbs. (130 N·m) using the tightening pattern shown in Figure 1.
8. Install the wheel covers, if equipped.
9. Lower the vehicle.
10. Return the full size spare to its storage location.

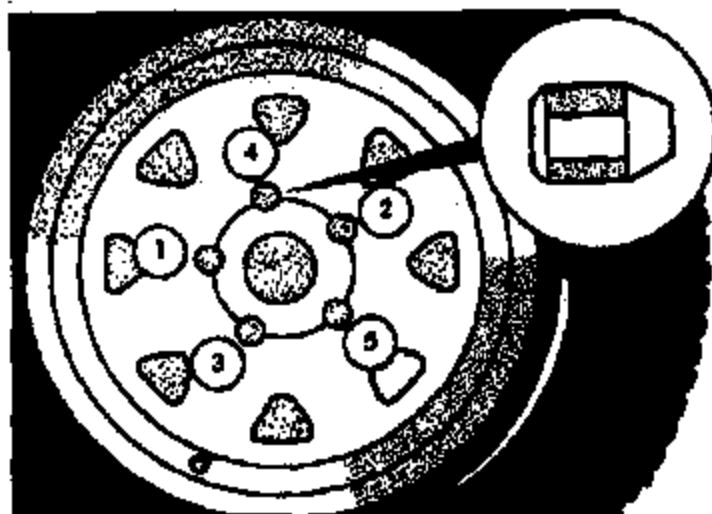


Figure 1 - Typical

Completion Reporting and Reimbursement

Claims for vehicles that have been serviced must be submitted on the DIAL System or on the DealerCONNECT Claim Entry Screen located on the Service tab. Claims submitted will be used by DaimlerChrysler to record recall service completions and provide dealer payments.

Use the following labor operation number and time allowance:

	Labor Operation Number	Time Allowance
Replace Five Tires	22-C4-01-82	1.2 hours

Enter part number Y137694076 on your warranty claim and the cost shown on the Mopar tire invoice plus applicable dealer allowance to your claim. These tires will be billed on your weekly Mopar Tire invoice.

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 DMAIL and by first class mail. Two additional copies will be sent through the DCMMS. DealerCONNECT will be updated to include this recall in the near future.

Vehicle Lists, Global Recall System, VIP and Dealer Follow up

All involved vehicles have been entered into the DealerCONNECT Global Recall System (GRS) and Vehicle Information Plus (VIP) for dealer inquiry as needed. Involved dealers were also mailed a copy of their vehicle (VIN) list with the dealer recall notification letter.

GRS provides involved dealers with an updated VIN list of their incomplete vehicles. The owner's name, address and phone number are listed if known. Completed vehicles are removed from GRS within several days of repair claim submission.

To use this system, click on the "Service" tab and then click on "Global Recall System." Your dealer's VIN list for each recall displayed can be sorted by: those vehicles that were unsold at recall launch, those with a phone number, city, zip code, or VIN sequence.

Dealers must perform this repair on all unsold vehicles before retail delivery. Dealers should also use the VIN list to follow up with all owners to schedule appointments for this repair.

Recall VIN lists may contain confidential, restricted owner name and address information that was obtained from the Department of Motor Vehicles of various states. Use of this information is permitted for this recall only and is strictly prohibited from all other use.

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.

Additional Information

If you have any questions or need assistance in completing this action, please contact your Service and Parts District Manager.

Customer Services Field Operations
DaimlerChrysler Corporation

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

SAFETY RECALL TO REPLACE YOUR VEHICLE'S TIRES

Dear 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 decided that some 2000 and 2001 model year Dodge Ram 1500 4WD pickup trucks fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 120 – Tire Selection and Rims for Motor Vehicles Other Than Passenger Cars.

The problem is...

Incorrect size tires were installed on your Ram Truck (identified on the enclosed form). These tires have a maximum weight rating that is lower than the ratings specified on the vehicle certification label. Loading your vehicle to the ratings on the certification label can cause tire failure and result in a crash without warning.

What DaimlerChrysler and your dealer will do...

DaimlerChrysler will repair your truck free of charge (parts and labor). To do this, your dealer will replace all of the tires on your vehicle, including the full size spare tire. The work will take about 1½ hours to complete. However, additional time may be necessary depending on how dealer appointments are scheduled and processed. DaimlerChrysler will replace and balance all affected tires only one time.

What you must do to ensure your safety...

- Simply contact your dealer right away to schedule a service appointment. Ask the dealer to order five tires for your vehicle 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 your dealer is unable to resolve, please contact DaimlerChrysler at 1-800-853-1403.

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, P.O. Box 610207, Port Huron, MI 48061-0207, 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
C40

Note to lessors receiving this recall: Federal regulation requires that you forward this recall notice to the lessee within 10 days.