

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

August 3, 2004

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:

Attached is DaimlerChrysler Corporation's Defect Information Report, complying with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, which contains details of a potential safety related defect in some 2004 model year Dodge Ram pick up trucks with 4.7L engines. A valve cover stud may interfere with the alternator wiring harness. DaimlerChrysler Corporation will conduct a voluntary safety recall to inspect the alternator wiring insulation for damage and repair as necessary, and add a tie-strap clip to the stud to positively retain the wiring on all affected vehicles.

Sincerely,



Stephan J. Speth

Enclosures: Defect Information Report for DaimlerChrysler Corporation Recall D34
Dealer and Owner Notification Letters – Recall D34

cc: K. C. DeMeter, NHTSA
Division of Occupational Safety & Health
California Department of Industrial Relations

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER RECALL D34

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Submission date: August 3, 2004

Identifying classification of vehicles potentially affected:

Make	Model	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture	Vehicle Volume	Other
Dodge	Ram pick up truck	2004	6/22/2004 - 7/07/2004	2,261	w/ 4.7L engine only

The Involved Vehicle Identification Number range is:

<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>
4J284581	4J298967
4S760276	4S790711

(VIN last eight characters) – 4 = 2004 model year; J = St. Louis North Assembly Plant, Fenton, Missouri; S = Warren Truck 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.

Estimated percentage containing defect: 3%**Description of defect:**

The alternator wiring harness may short circuit due to contact with a valve cover stud. A short circuit in the alternator harness could result in an under hood fire.

The following chronology of principal events occurred during June and July of 2004 and led to the determination of a defect:

- During the June 2004 investigation leading to recall D33 of 2004 model year 3.7L Jeep Liberty vehicles for possible wiring harness interference with the valve cover stud, the 4.7L engine configuration was evaluated across all applications and determination

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER RECALL D34

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made that no similar interference existed.

- A valve cover change for the 2005 model year had been pulled ahead on some vehicle models to the 2004 model year. This change included the addition of a valve cover stud on the 4.7L engine as a wiring attachment location for another product that will utilize the same engine.
- For the Dodge Ram 4.7L application, the valve cover stud was not utilized as a wiring attachment location.
- 4.7L engines with the valve cover change started production in the Dodge Ram on June 22, 2004.
- In late June, a survey of 25 Dodge Ram vehicles with the 4.7L engine and valve cover change had shown no issue with alternator wiring contacting the stud.
- Subsequent engineering analysis on July 6, 2004 found one 4.7L Dodge Ram vehicle out of twelve evaluated that had the alternator wiring harness in hard contact with the front left valve cover stud. 4.7L Dodge Ram vehicles at the St. Louis North and Warren Truck Assembly Plants were contained via yard hold.
- An expanded survey conducted on July 7, 2004 of 100 vehicles held at the Warren Truck yard found three vehicles with the alternator wiring harness in hard contact with the valve cover stud.
- A tie-strap clip that attaches to the valve cover stud was released into production to positively locate the wiring harness and prevent contact with the valve cover stud.
- All contained vehicles were re-worked with the tie-strap clip prior to their release.
- This data was presented on July 27, 2004 to the Vehicle Regulations Committee who decided to conduct a safety recall to repair the affected vehicles.

Statement of measures to be taken to correct defect:

DaimlerChrysler Corporation will conduct a safety recall to inspect the alternator wiring insulation for damage and repair as necessary, and add a tie-strap clip to the valve cover stud to positively retain the wiring on all affected vehicles. DaimlerChrysler expects to initiate national notification to dealers on August 5, 2004 and notification to owners on August 13, 2004.

DaimlerChrysler Corporation has a longstanding policy and practice of reimbursing owners who have incurred the cost of repairing a problem that subsequently becomes the subject of a field action. To ensure consistency, DaimlerChrysler Corporation, as part of the owner letter, will request that customers send original receipt and/or other adequate proof of payment to the company for confirmation of the expense.

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

August 2004

Dealer Service Instructions for:

Safety Recall B34 – Valve Cover Stud

Models

2004 (DR) Dodge Ram Pick-up Trucks

NOTE: This recall applies only to the above vehicles equipped with a 4.7L engine ("N" in the 8th VIN Position) built from June 24, 2004 through July 7, 2004 (MDH 062401 through 070718).

IMPORTANT: Many of the vehicles within the above build period have already been inspected or repaired and, therefore, have been excluded from this recall.

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 VIP inquiry process.

Subject

The generator wiring harness on about 2,200 of the above vehicles may short circuit due to contact with a valve cover stud. A short circuit in the generator harness can cause an underhood fire.

Repair

The generator wiring harnesses must be rerouted and secured to the valve cover stud.

Parts Information

Part Number	Quantity	Description
55366863AA	1	Tie Strap w/Stand-Off

Each dealer to whom vehicles in the recall were invoiced will receive enough tie straps to service 100% of those vehicles.

Service Procedure

1. Open the hood.
2. Inspect the generator wiring harness/fusible link where it passes the valve cover stud located on the front left corner of the engine (Figure 1). If the wiring insulation is damaged from contact with the stud, wrap it with high quality electrical tape.
3. Install the stand off portion of the provided tie strap over the stud on the left front corner of the valve cover (Figure 2).
4. Pull the generator wiring harness forward and position it above the injector wiring harness. Secure the generator harness/fusible link to the injector harness with the provided tie strap (Figure 2).

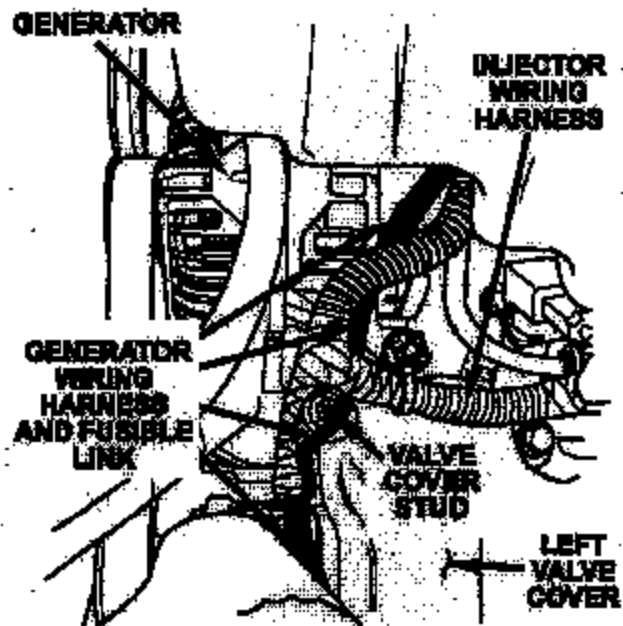


Figure 1

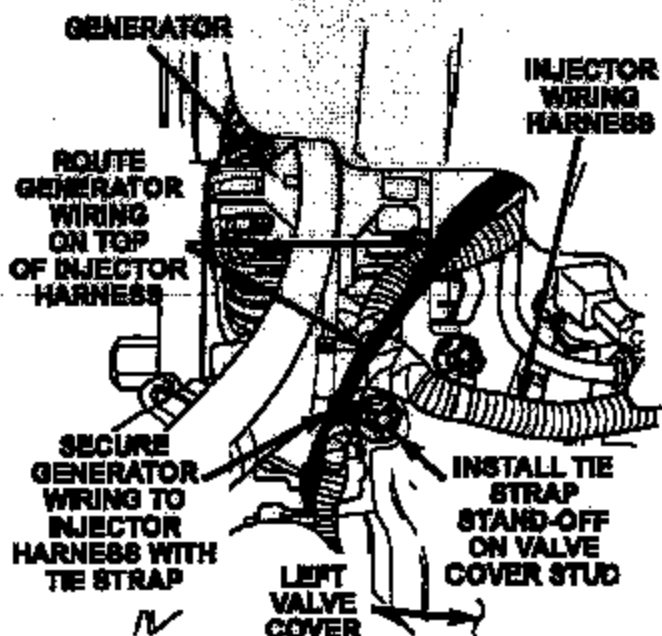


Figure 2

Completion Reporting and Reimbursement

Claims for vehicles that have been serviced must be submitted 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
Reroute and secure wiring harness	08-D3-41-82	0.2 hours

Add the cost of the part 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 applicable.

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. 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 generic copy of the owner letter is attached.

Enclosed with each owner letter is an Owner Notification postcard to allow owners to update our records if applicable.

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.

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

*Breaks up
for Safety!*

SAFETY RECALL – VALVE COVER STUD

Dear: (Name)

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 a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in some 2004 model year Dodge Ram pick-up trucks equipped with a 4.7L engine.

The problem is... The generator wiring harness on your Ram truck (VIN: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx) may short circuit due to contact with a valve cover stud. A short circuit in the generator harness can cause an underhood fire.

What your dealer will do... DaimlerChrysler will repair your truck free of charge (parts and labor). To do this, your dealer will reroute and secure the generator wiring harness. The work will take less than 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 part for your vehicle or to order it before your appointment. Remember to bring this letter with you to your 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.

Please help us update our records, by filling out the enclosed prepaid postcard, if any of the conditions listed on the card apply to you or your vehicle. Be sure to print the last eight (8) characters of the VIN (VVVVVVVV) and notification code D34 on the postcard.

If you have already experienced this condition 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.

Customer Services Field Operations
DaimlerChrysler Corporation

D34

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