

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

RECEIVED
NVS-210

2004 SEP 13 P 2:27

OFFICE OF DEFECTS
INVESTIGATION

RECEIVED
NVS-210
2004 SEP 13 P 2:26
OFFICE OF DEFECTS
INVESTIGATION
DaimlerChrysler Corporation
Stephen J. Speth
Director
Vehicle Compliance & Safety Affairs

September 9, 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:

Reference: NHTSA Identification Number 04V-268

Enclosed are representative copies of communications relating to the 2001 through 2005 model year vehicles involved in the referenced recall. DaimlerChrysler expects to begin owner notification during the week of September 20, 2004. The exact number of manufactured vehicles in the recall is 435,975.

The involved Vehicle Identification Number range is:

<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>
1T223967	1T699798
2T200026	2T389988
3T500017	3T657942
4T200009	4T330634
5T202498	5T600024

(VIN last eight characters) - 1 = 2001 model year; 2 = 2002 model year; 3 = 2003 model year; 4 = 2004 model year; 5 = 2005 model year; T = Toluca Assembly Plant, Toluca, Mexico; 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 many 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,


Stephen J. Speth, Director
Vehicle Compliance and Safety Affairs

Enclosure: Recall #D18

cc: K. C. DeMeter

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

September 2004

Dealer Service Instructions for:

Safety Recall #18 **Power Steering Pressure Hose**

Models

2001-2004 (PT) Chrysler PT Cruiser

2005 (PT) Chrysler PT Cruiser Convertible

NOTE: This recall applies only to the above vehicles equipped with a 2.4L non-turbocharged engine ("B" in the 8th VIN Position) and an automatic transaxle (Sales Code DGB) built through April 26, 2004 (MDH 042613).

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 power steering pressure hose on about 435,000 of the above vehicles may contact the transaxle differential cover. Prolonged power steering hose contact can cause the hose to rub through and leak power steering fluid. Power steering fluid leakage in the presence of an ignition source can result in an underhood fire.

Repair

The power steering pressure hose must be inspected and repositioned. Pressure hoses that are damaged must be replaced.

Alternate Transportation

Dealers should attempt to minimize customer inconvenience by placing the owner in a loaner vehicle if inspection determines that power steering hose replacement is required and the vehicle must be held overnight.

Parts Information

Part Number Description (Model Year Application)

CBTBD181 **Power Steering Pressure Hose**
(Late-2002 through 2005 Model Years)

CBTKD182 **Power Steering Pressure Hose**
(2001 through Early-2002 Model Years)

Each dealer to whom vehicles in the recall were invoiced will receive ONE (1) of each power steering pressure hose to service vehicles as necessary. Additional power steering hoses may be ordered as required. *Very few vehicles are expected to require power steering hose replacement.*

IMPORTANT: The power steering hose to pump connection orientation changed late in the 2002 model year. For 2002 model year vehicles, inspect the hose connection orientation to determine the proper replacement hose. For hoses with a vertical orientation, order P/N CBTKD182 (Figure 1). For hoses with an angled orientation, order P/N CBTBD181. The two hoses are not interchangeable.

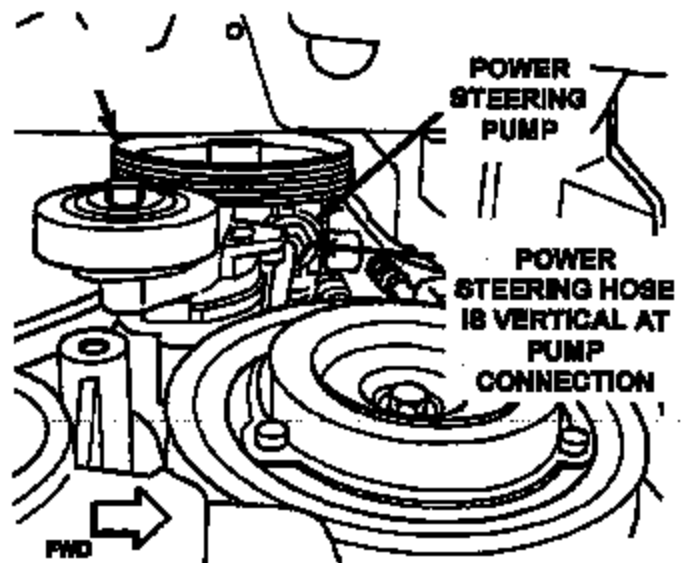


Figure 1 – As viewed from below

Service Procedure

A. Inspect Power Steering Pressure Hose:

1. Raise the vehicle on an appropriate hoist.
2. Inspect the section of power steering pressure hose closest to the transaxle differential cover (near the left rear of the engine) (Figure 2).
3. > **If the power steering hose is cut or worn such that the hose reinforcement cords are visible**, the power steering hose must be replaced. Continue with **Section B. – Replace Power Steering Pressure Hose**.
- > **If the hose section of the power steering hose is NOT cut or worn, or if the hose reinforcement cords are not visible**, continue with Step 4.
4. Mark the location on the power steering hose of the two (2) clamps that secure the power steering hose to the rear of the engine (Figure 3).

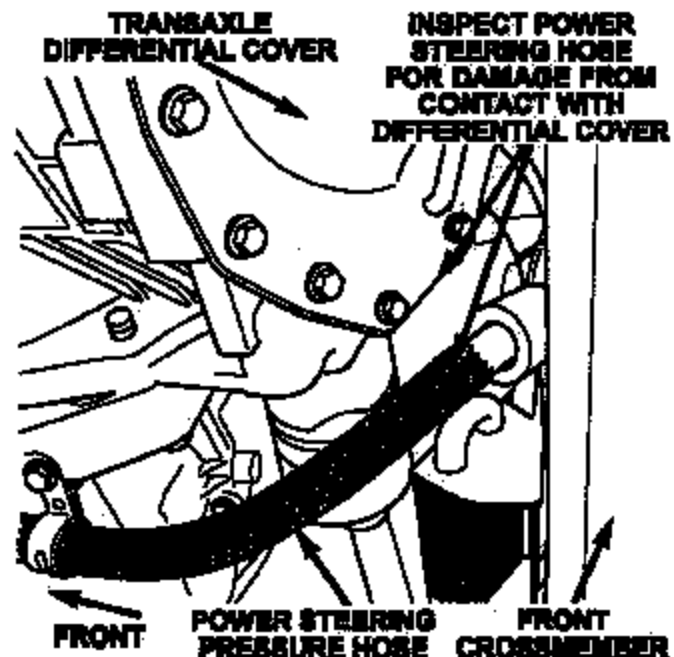


Figure 2

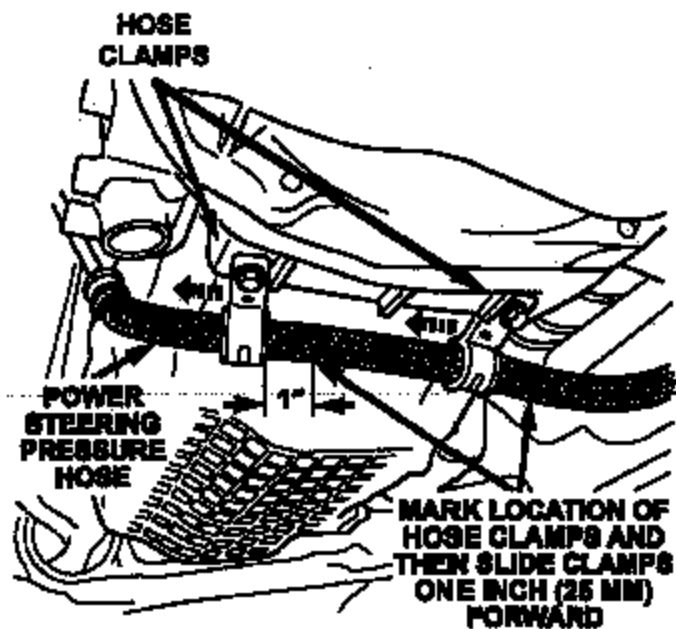


Figure 3

Service Procedure (Continued)

5. Disconnect the two (2) clamps that secure the hose to the rear of the engine (Figure 3).
6. Loosen the power steering hose-to-steering gear connection (Figure 4).
7. Slide both hose clamps forward one (1) inch each on the hose (Figure 3).
8. Attach the two (2) hose clamps to the engine and tighten to 75 in-lbs (8.5 N-m).

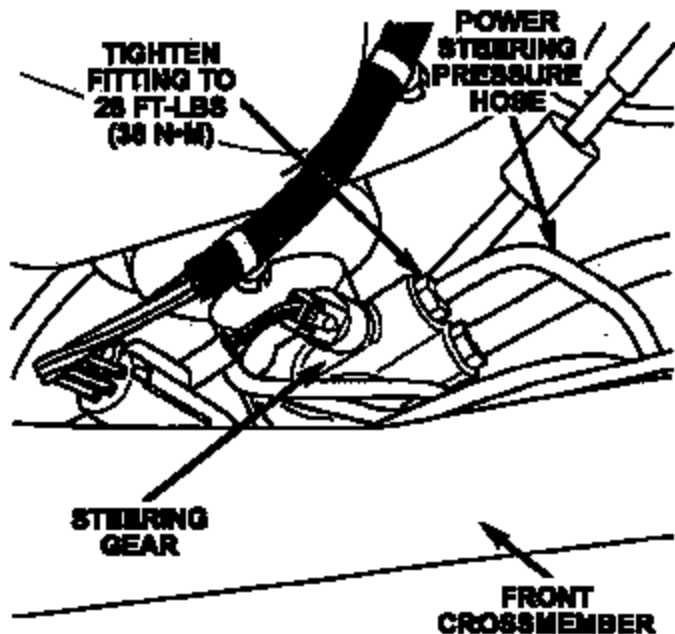


Figure 4

9. Reorient the hose so that:
 - The foam donut on the hose (2004/2005 model years) just contacts the front crossmember, or;
 - The hose has 1/2" (12.5 mm) clearance to the front crossmember (2001-2003 model years) (Figure 5).

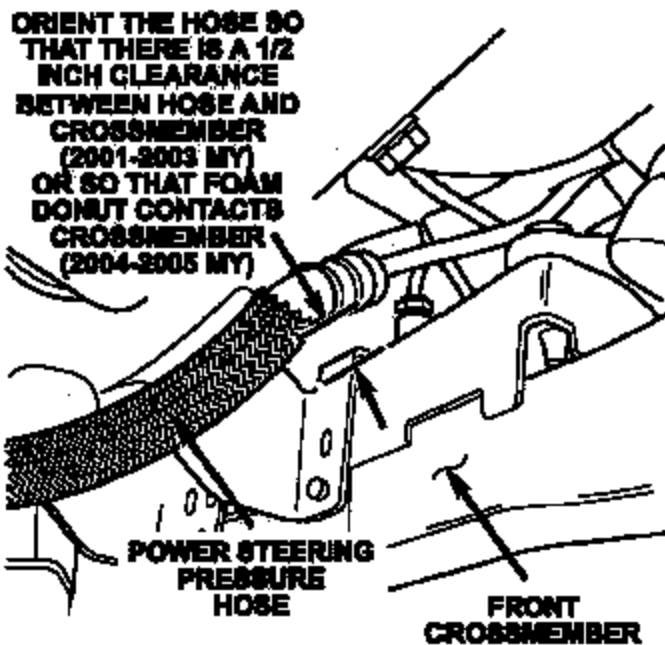


Figure 5

NOTE: For 2001 through 2003 model year vehicles, place a folded shop towel between the hose and the crossmember to maintain the 1/2" clearance while tightening.

10. While keeping the hose in position, tighten the power steering hose-to-steering gear connection to 28 ft-lbs (38 N-m) (Figure 4).

NOTE: Use a 3/8" torque wrench with a 1" extension and a crow's foot socket to tighten the steering gear connection.

11. Lower the vehicle and return it to the customer.

Service Procedure (Continued)

B. Replace the Power Steering Pressure Hose:

NOTE: Only damaged power steering pressure hoses, as determined by the inspection in Section A, require replacement. Very few vehicles are expected to require power steering hose replacement.

1. Lower the vehicle.
2. Open the hood.
3. Siphon as much fluid as possible from the power steering reservoir.
4. Raise the vehicle on the hoist to working level.
5. Remove the right front wheel and tire assembly.

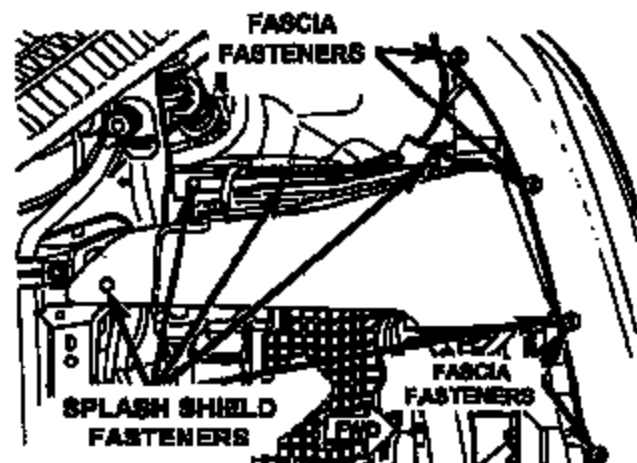


Figure 6 -- Viewed from below

6. Remove the right front lower wheel well/drive belt splash shield (Figure 6).
7. Remove the air conditioning (A/C) compressor drive belt (Figure 7).
8. Disconnect the two (2) A/C compressor electrical connectors (Figure 7).
9. Remove the four (4) A/C compressor bracket bolts (Figure 7) and set the compressor aside.

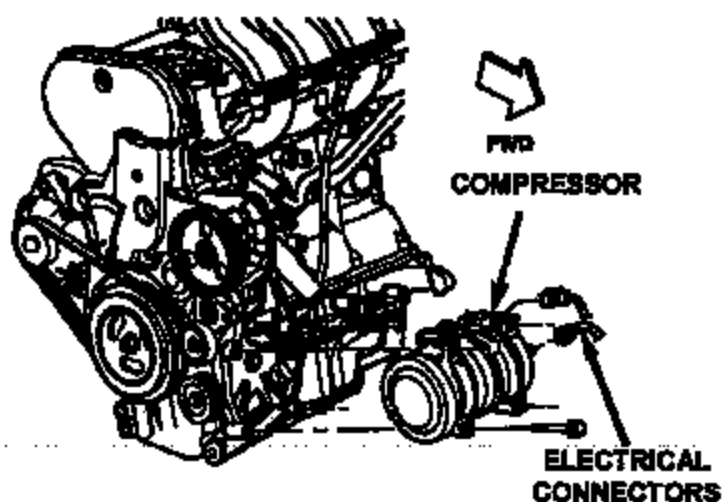


Figure 7

10. Fully raise the vehicle.

Service Procedure (Continued)

11. Disconnect the power steering pressure hose from the steering gear and drain the fluid (Figure 8).

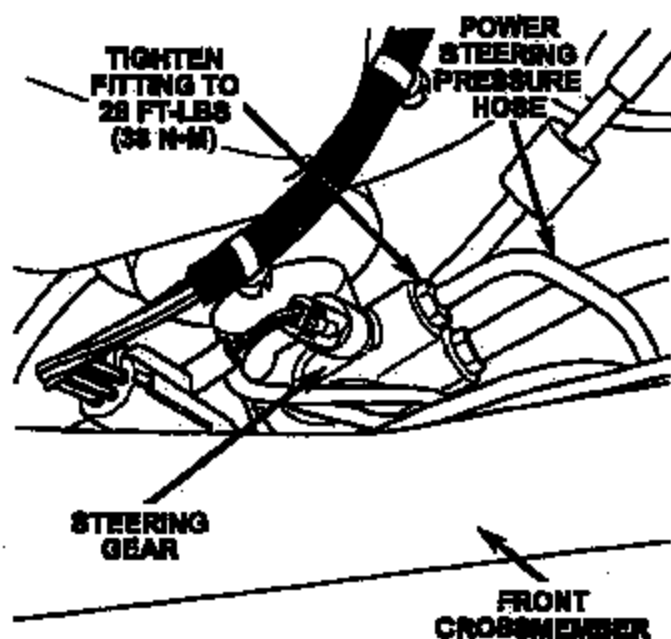


Figure 8

12. Disconnect the two (2) power steering hose clamps from the rear of the engine (Figure 9).

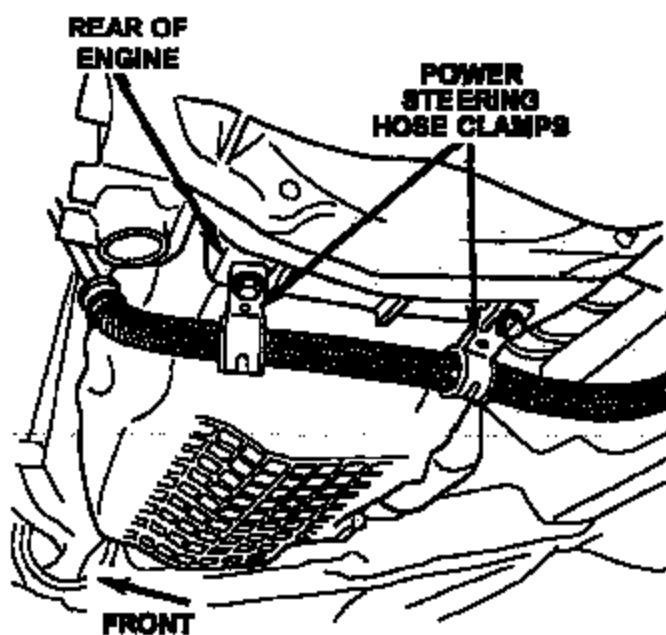
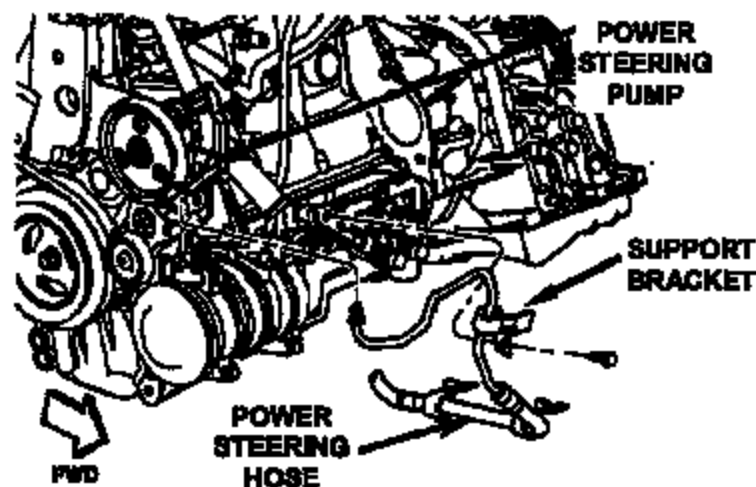


Figure 9

Service Procedure (Continued)

13. Disconnect the power steering hose support bracket from the front of the engine (Figure 10).
14. Disconnect the power steering hose from the power steering pump (Figure 10).

NOTE: For 2001 and 2002 model year vehicles, place a shop towel between the pump pulley and the power steering hose to protect the pulley from damage due to tool contact.

**Figure 10**

15. Remove the power steering hose and discard it.
16. Loosely connect the new power steering hose to the power steering pump.
17. Install the power steering hose support bracket to the front of the engine (Figure 10). Tighten the bracket fastener to 70 in-lbs (8 N·m).
18. Tighten the power steering hose-to-pump connection to 275 in-lbs (31 N·m) (Figure 10).
19. Install the A/C compressor (Figure 7). Tighten the compressor bracket bolts to 250 in-lbs (28 N·m).
20. Connect the two (2) A/C compressor electrical connectors (Figure 7).
21. Install the A/C compressor belt.
22. Install the lower wheel well/drive belt splash shield (Figure 6).
23. Route the power steering hose around the rear of the engine and install the two clamps to the rear of the engine (Figure 9). Tighten the clamps to 75 in-lbs (8.5 N·m).
24. Loosely connect the power steering hose to the steering gear (Figure 8).

Service Procedure (Continued)

25. Orient the hose so that:

- The foam donut on the hose (2003-2005 model years) just contacts the front crossmember, or;
- The hose has $\frac{1}{2}$ " (12.5 mm) clearance to the front crossmember (2001-2002 model years) (Figure 11).

NOTE: For 2001 through 2002 model year vehicles, place a folded shop towel between the hose and the crossmember to maintain the $\frac{1}{2}$ " clearance while tightening.

ORIENT THE HOSE SO THAT THERE IS A $\frac{1}{2}$ INCH CLEARANCE BETWEEN HOSE AND CROSSMEMBER (2001-2002 MY) OR SO THAT FOAM DONUT CONTACTS CROSSMEMBER (2003-2005 MY)

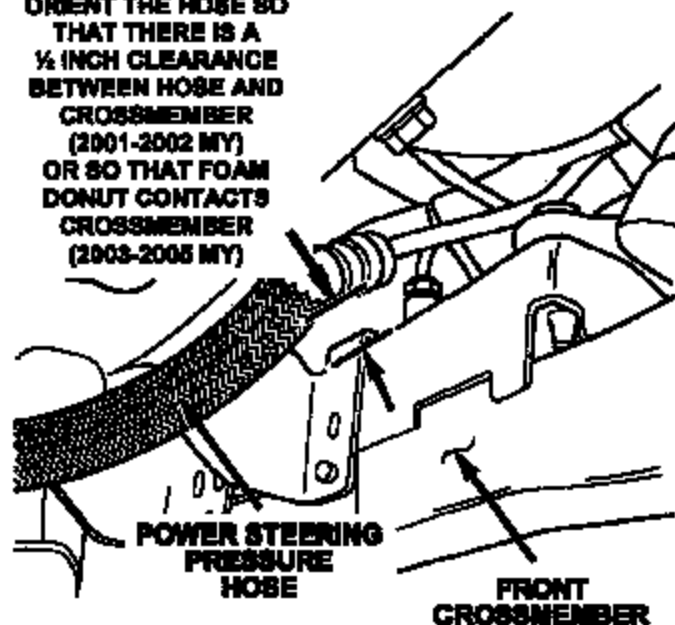


Figure 11

26. While keeping the hose in position, tighten the power steering hose-to-steering gear connection to 28 ft-lbs (38 N·m) (Figure 8).

NOTE: Use a $\frac{3}{8}$ " torque wrench with a 1" extension and a crow's foot socket to tighten the steering gear connection.

27. Lower the vehicle to working level.

28. Install the right front wheel and tire assembly. Tighten the lug nuts to 95 ft-lbs (130 N·m).

29. Lower the vehicle until the front wheels are just off of the ground.

30. Fill the power steering reservoir with Mopar ATF+4 (P/N 05013457AA).

31. Turn the steering wheel from lock-to-lock twenty (20) times.

32. Start the engine and then turn it off.

33. Top off the fluid in the power steering reservoir.

Service Procedure (Continued)

34. Turn the steering wheel from lock-to-lock eight (8) more times.
35. Start the engine, verify that there are no leaks and then turn it off.
36. Top off the fluid in the power steering reservoir again.
37. Lower the vehicle completely.

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 one of the following labor operation numbers and time allowances:

	Labor Operation Number	Time Allowance
Inspect and reposition power steering pressure hose	19-D1-81-82	0.2 hours
Inspect and replace power steering pressure hose	19-D1-81-83	1.0 hours

Add the cost of the recall part, 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. 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.

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

*Back to
for Safety*

SAFETY RECALL – POWER STEERING HOSE

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 2001 through 2004 model year Chrysler PT Cruiser and 2005 model year Chrysler PT Cruiser Convertible vehicles equipped with a 2.4L non-turbocharged engine and an automatic transaxle.

The problem is... The power steering pressure hose on your PT Cruiser (VIN: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx) may contact the transaxle differential cover. Prolonged power steering hose contact can cause the hose to rub through and leak power steering fluid. Power steering fluid leakage in the presence of an ignition source can result in an underhood fire.

What your dealer will do... DaimlerChrysler will repair your vehicle free of charge (parts and labor). To do this, your dealer will inspect and reposition the power steering hose. Any damaged hoses will be replaced. The inspection and repositioning will take about ½ hour to complete. Hose replacement, if necessary, will require another hour. 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. 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 D18 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
Notification Code D18

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