

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

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CORPORATION

DaimlerChrysler Corporation
Stephan J. Speth
Director
Vehicle Compliance & Safety Affairs

March 7, 2006

06V-073
(13 pages)

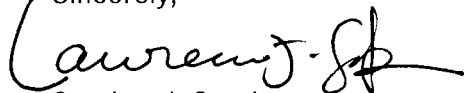
Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator of Enforcement, Office of Vehicle Safety
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

Attached is DaimlerChrysler Corporation's Noncompliance Information Report, complying with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, which contains details of a noncompliance in a small number of 2006 model year Dodge Ram 3500 dual rear wheel vehicles. The exterior lighting does not meet the requirement of FMVSS 108, Lamps Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment, to have roof mounted cab clearance lamps on a vehicle over 80 inches in width.

DaimlerChrysler Corporation has issued a safety recall to add the required roof mounted cab clearance lamps to the affected vehicles.

Sincerely,


for Stephan J. Speth

Enclosures: Noncompliance Information Report for DaimlerChrysler Corporation Recall F12
Dealer and Owner Notification letters for DaimlerChrysler Corporation Recall F12

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

NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER RECALL F12

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Submission date: March 7, 2006

Identifying classification of vehicles potentially affected:

Make	Model	Model Year	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture	Vehicle Volume (estimated)	Other
Dodge	Ram 3500	2006	12/23/2005 - 02/15/2006	279	With dual rear wheels only

Estimated percentage containing defect: 100%

The involved Vehicle Identification Number range is:

Low High
6G194973 6G225126

(VIN last eight characters) - 6 = 2006 model year; G = Saltillo Assembly Plant, Saltillo, Mexico; and last six digits = sequential number.

DaimlerChrysler Corporation cautions 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.

Description of noncompliance:

The involved vehicles may have been inadvertently manufactured without the roof mounted cab clearance lamps. This does not meet the requirements of FMVSS 108, Lamps Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment.

The following chronology of principal events occurred in February of 2006 and led to the determination of a noncompliance:

- In late February of 2006, it was observed at DaimlerChrysler Corporation's Saltillo (Mexico) Assembly Plant that some Dodge Ram 3500 Mega Cab trucks with dual rear wheels did not have roof mounted cab clearance lamps installed.
- Investigation determined that in late 2005 the cab clearance lamps had been incorrectly released as optional on some required vehicle configurations.

NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT FOR DAIMLERCHRYSLER RECALL F12

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- The 2006 model year Dodge Ram 3500 mega Cab truck with dual rear wheels is greater than 80 inches in width. FMVSS 108 requires roof mounted cab clearance lamps for a vehicle of this width.
- All vehicles within the control of the Saltillo Assembly Plant were held and corrected, but a small number were determined to be beyond the control of the plant.
- DaimlerChrysler Corporation is unaware of any accidents or injuries attributable to this condition.
- This data was presented to the Vehicle Regulations Committee on February 28, 2006 who decided to conduct a safety recall to add roof mounted cab clearance lamps to the affected vehicles.

Statement of measures to be taken to correct defect:

DaimlerChrysler Corporation will add roof mounted cab clearance lamps to all affected vehicles. DaimlerChrysler Corporation has implemented national notification to dealers on March 7, 2006 and will notify owners when additional parts are available, anticipated in late March of 2006.

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.

Dealer Service Instructions for:

Safety Recall F12 Cab Clearance Lamps

Models

2006 (D1) Dodge Ram 3500 Mega Cab Truck

NOTE: This recall applies only to the above vehicles built with dual rear wheels at the Saltillo Assembly Plant ("G" in the 11th VIN Position) from December 20, 2005 through February 15, 2006 (MDH 122008 through 021511).

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 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

About 275 of the above vehicles may have been inadvertently manufactured without the roof mounted clearance lamps. As a result, these vehicles fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 108. – Lamps, Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment.

Repair

Roof mounted cab clearance lamps must be installed.

Parts Information

<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
82207252AB	Cab Clearance Lamp Package

Each package contains the following components:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>
5	Lamp Assemblies
5	Bulbs
10	Mounting Screws
10	Plastic Screw Grommets
1	Wiring Harness
1	Template
2	Tie Straps
1	Brass Wire Crimp

Each dealer to whom vehicles in the recall were invoiced will receive enough Cab Clearance Lamp Packages to service about **25%** of those vehicles.

Service Procedure

1. Disconnect the negative battery cable.
2. Remove the right and left side “A” pillar grab handles and trim panels.
3. Remove the right and left side front sun visors.
4. Remove the inner sun visor pivots.
5. Remove the overhead center console.
6. Remove the right and left side “B” pillar seatbelt turning loops.
7. Remove the right and left side “B” pillar grab handles and trim panels.
8. Carefully lower the front of the headliner to gain access to the backside of the roof panel.

CAUTION: Use care not to damage the headliner.

9. Trim the template as shown in Figure 1.

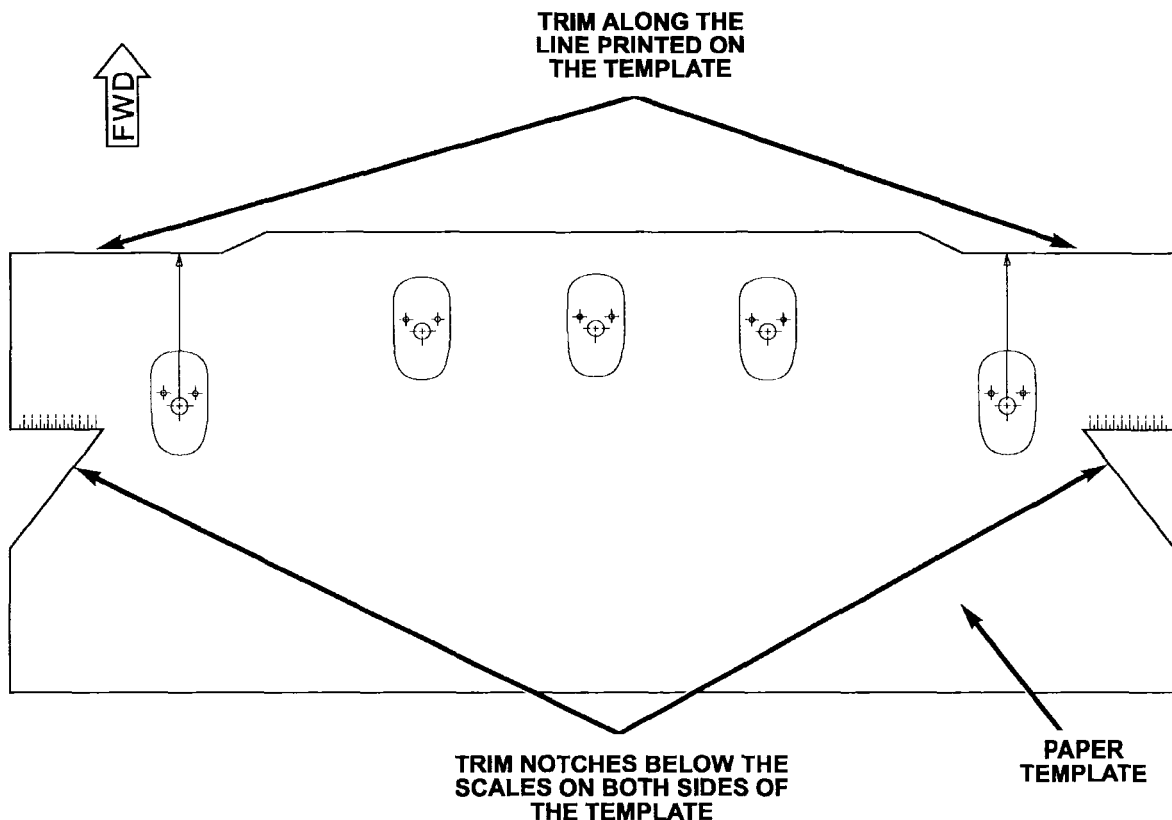
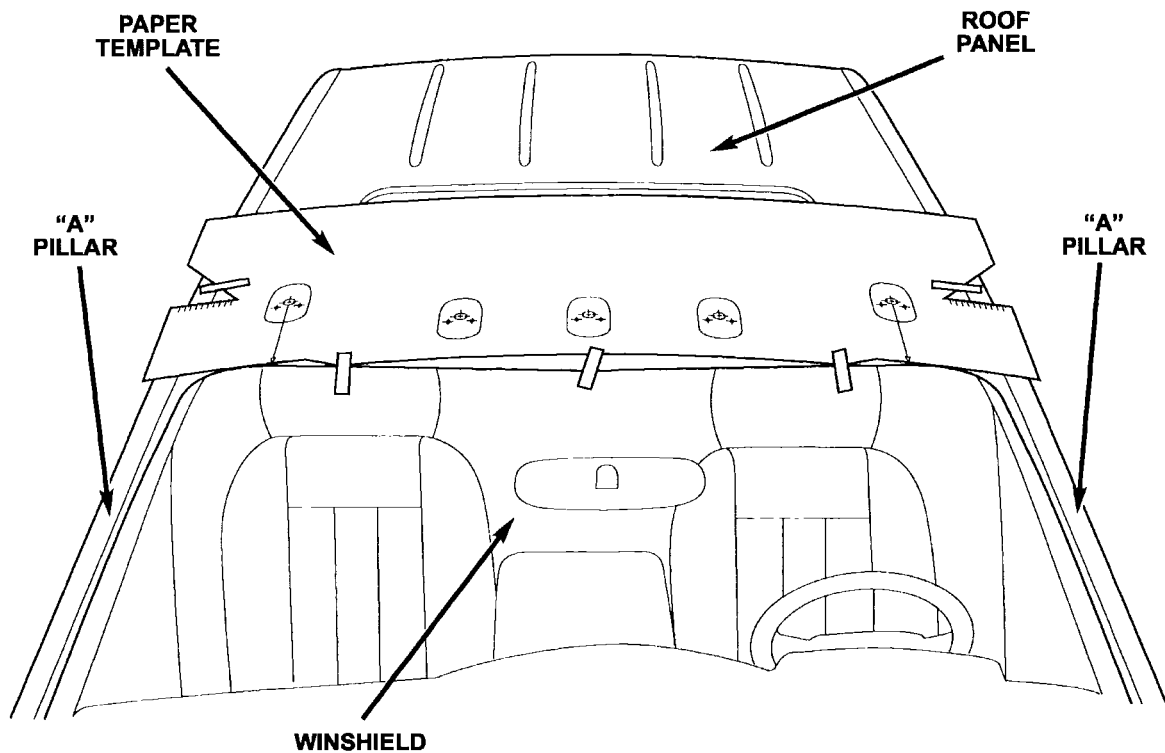


Figure 1

Service Procedure (Continued)**Figure 2**

10. Place the template on the roof. Line up the forward arrows with the top edge of the windshield and move the template right or left until the gauge numbers are the same on each edge of the roof. Use masking tape to hold the template in place (Figure 2).
11. Using a sharp center punch, center punch each hole location on the template.
12. Using a 1/8 inch diameter drill bit, drill pilot holes at each of the hole locations.
13. Remove the template from the roof.

Service Procedure (Continued)

14. Using a 7/8 inch (22 mm) hole saw, drill five 7/8 inch holes into the roof as shown on the template (Figure 3).
15. Using a 1/4 inch (6.35 mm) drill, drill ten 1/4 inch holes into the roof as shown on the template (Figure 3).
16. Remove all burrs from holes drilled into the roof.
17. Clean all metal chips from the outside vehicle.
18. Apply rust resistant primer (3M 08681 or equivalent) or touch up paint to the edges of the holes drilled.
19. Install plastic screw grommets into the 1/4 inch holes in the roof (Figure 4).

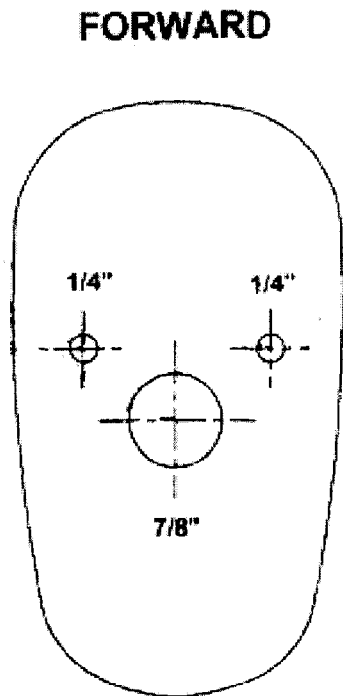


Figure 3

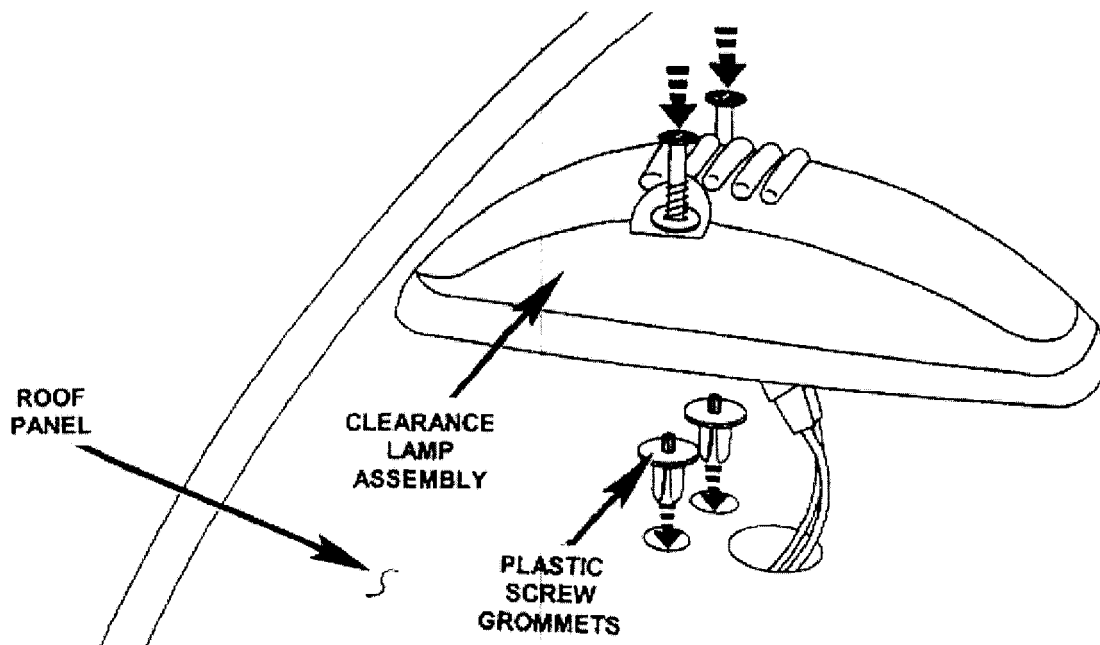


Figure 4

Service Procedure (Continued)

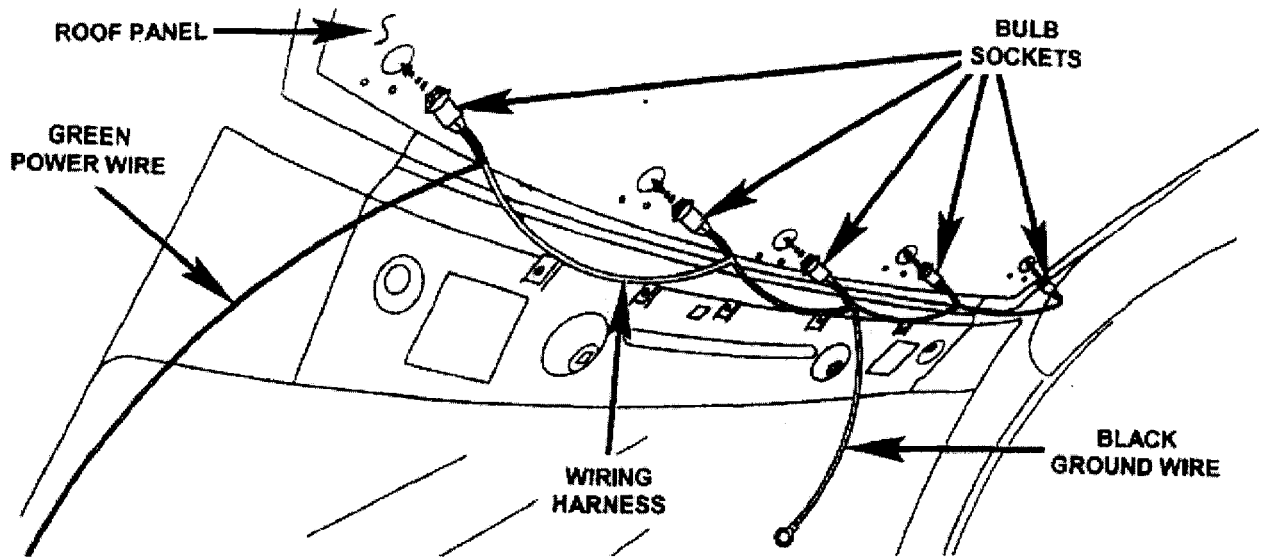


Figure 5

20. Place the light wiring harness into position (Figure 5).
21. Insert bulbs into sockets.
22. Insert bulb sockets into the clearance lamp lenses (Figure 6).
23. Mount the clearance lamp lenses to the roof with the two screws provided in the kit (Figure 4). Tighten the screws to 14 in. lbs. (1.6 N·m).
24. Using the supplied drill/screw, mount the ground wire to the roof reinforcement.
25. Route the green power wire down the left side “A” pillar and through the rubber grommet on the dash panel.
26. Route the green power wire along the left fender, behind the battery, over to the Totally Integrated Power Module (TIPM).

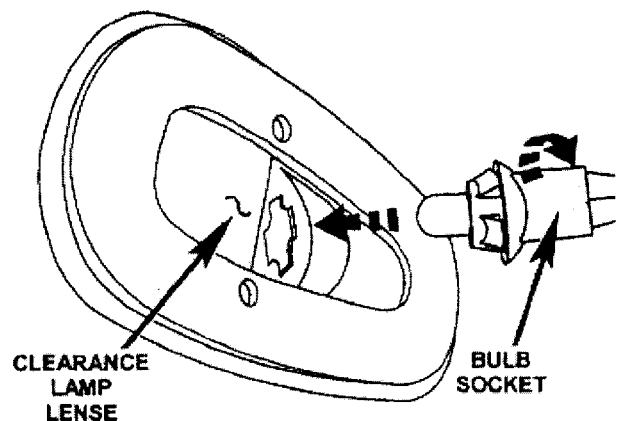


Figure 6

Service Procedure (Continued)

27. Unsnap the cover on the TIPM.
28. Disengage the tabs on the upper end of the TIPM and rotate the TIPM panel forward, exposing the wiring and connectors on the back side of the TIPM panel (Figure 7).
29. Locate the **white (with gray tracer) wire** on the **blue TIPM connector** (Figure 8).
30. Without cutting the wire, remove a 3/4 inch section of wire insulation from the white (with gray tracer) wire.
31. Splice the green wire from the clearance lamps to the white wire (with gray tracer) together using the brass crimp provided in the kit.
32. Solder the wires together using rosin core solder.
33. Wrap the splice with black electrical tape.
34. Temporarily reconnect the negative battery cable and check the cab light operation.
35. Disconnect the negative battery cable.
36. Snap the TIPM panel into position and install the TIPM cover.
37. Lift the headliner into position and install the right and left side “B” pillar grab handles and trim panels.
38. Install the right and left side “B” pillar seatbelt turning loops. Tighten the bolts to 29 ft. lbs (39 N·m).

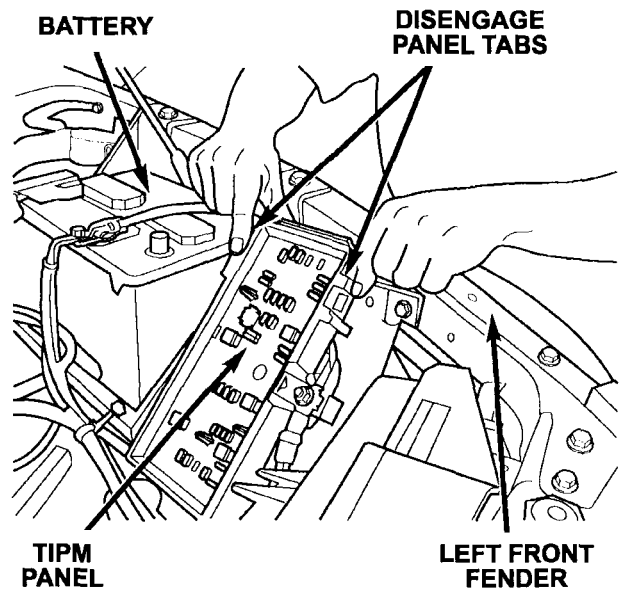


Figure 7

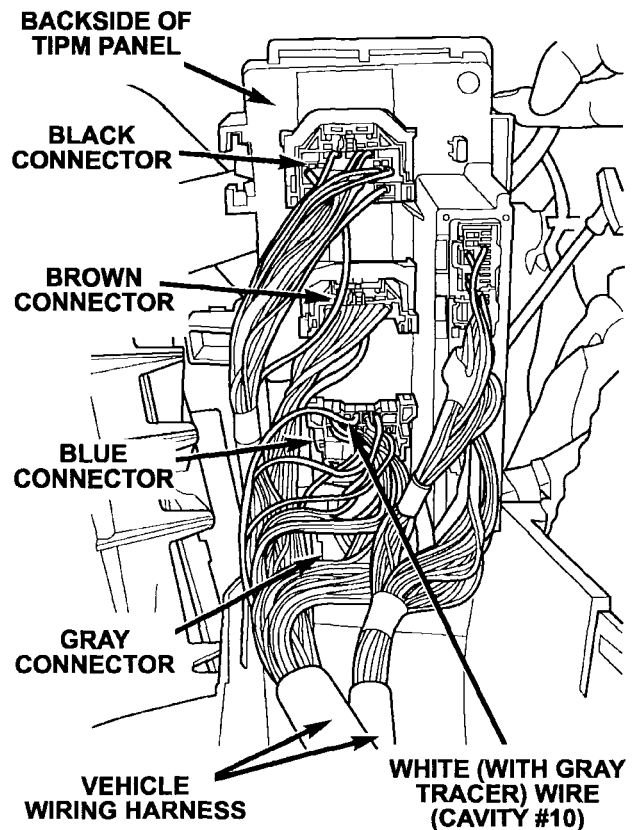


Figure 8

Service Procedure (Continued)

- 39. Install the overhead center console.
- 40. Install the inner sun visor pivots.
- 41. Install the right and left side front sun visors.
- 42. Install the right and left side “A” pillar grab handles and trim panels.
- 43. Connect the negative battery cable.
- 44. Using a shop vacuum, remove any metal chips from the interior of the vehicle.

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
Install Cab Clearance Lamps	23-F1-21-82	2.0 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.

Dealer Notification

All dealers will receive a copy of this dealer recall notification letter by mail. Two additional copies will be sent through the DCMMS. To view this notification on DealerCONNECT, select “Global Recall System” on the Service tab, then click on the description of this notification.

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.

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.

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.

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

*Buckle up
for Safety!*

SAFETY RECALL F12 – CAB CLEARANCE LAMPS

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 some **2006 model year Dodge Ram 3500 Mega Cab trucks with dual rear wheels** fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 108 – Lamps, Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment.

The problem is... **Your truck** (VIN: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx) **may have been inadvertently manufactured without the roof mounted cab clearance lamps.** Without these lamps, other vehicle operators may not detect the increased width of your vehicle, which could cause a crash without warning.

What your dealer will do... **DaimlerChrysler will repair your vehicle free of charge (parts and labor).** To do this, your dealer will install cab clearance lights on your truck. The work will take about 2 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. **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 F12 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 4639 Oak Ridge, TN 37831, Attention: Reimbursement.

If your dealer fails or is unable to remedy this non-compliance 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 Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

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 F12

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