



January 2016

Dealer Service Instructions for:

# **Safety Recall R42 / NHTSA 15V-542 Transmission Control Module**

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## **Models**

**2013 - 2015 (PF) Dodge Dart**

*NOTE: This recall applies only to the above vehicles equipped with a 1.4L engine (sales code EAF) and a Dry Dual Clutch Transaxle (DDCT) (sales code DA1) built from February 24, 2012 through June 16, 2015 (MDH 022422 through 061603).*

**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**

The Transmission Control Module (TCM) mounting bracket on about 23,500 of the above vehicles may cause the printed circuit board solder joints to separate, resulting in an electrical open circuit in the TCM. An open circuit in the TCM could cause the transaxle to shift into “Neutral” without warning. Having the transaxle unintentionally shift into “Neutral” under certain driving conditions could cause a crash without warning.

## **Repair**

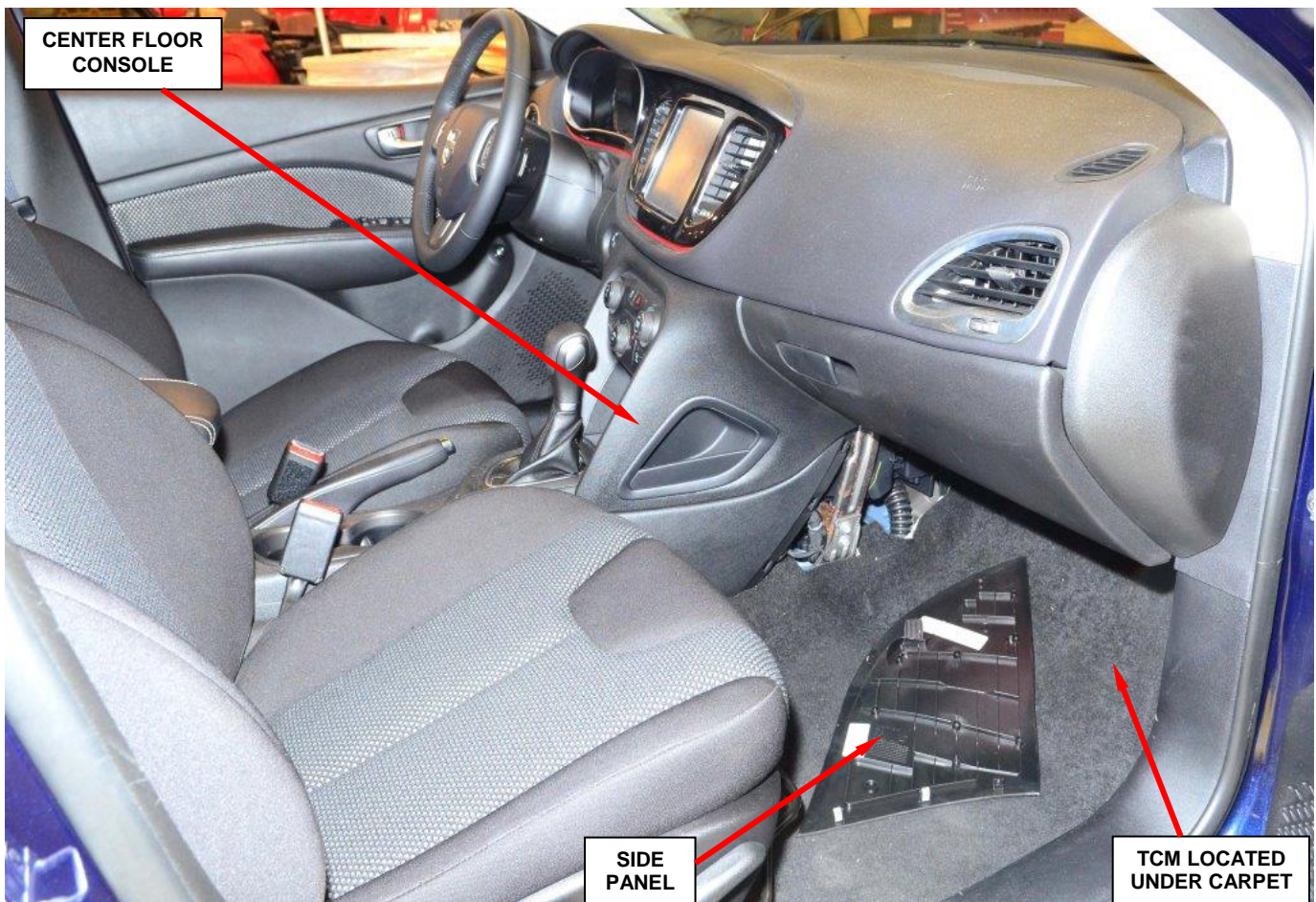
The Transmission Control Module and the Transmission Control Module mounting bracket must be replaced on all involved vehicles.



**Service Procedure**

**A. Transmission Control Module Replacement**

1. Open the hood.
2. Disconnect the negative battery cable clamp.
3. Remove the side panel from the passenger side of the center floor console (Figure 1).
4. In the passenger side foot well, roll the carpet down from the dash panel to gain access to the Transmission Control Module (TCM).



**Figure 1 – TCM Location**

**Service Procedure (Continued)**

5. Remove and save the nut holding the TCM mounting plate to the floor (Figure 2).
6. Disengage the TCM wire harness retaining clip (Figure 2).
7. Separate the TCM mounting plate from the vehicle floor.
8. Carefully turn the TCM over to gain access to the TCM wire harness electrical connectors.
9. Release the locks on the TCM wire harness electrical connectors.
10. Disconnect the wire harness electrical connectors from the TCM.
11. Remove the TCM and mounting bracket from the vehicle.



**Figure 2 – TCM Mounting Nut**

**Service Procedure (Continued)**

12. Remove and save the nut securing the TCM to the mounting bracket (Figure 3).
13. Discard the original TCM and mounting bracket (Figure 3).
14. Place the new TCM in position on the new mounting bracket.
15. Install the new TCM retaining bracket and retaining nut to the mounting bracket stud. Tighten the nut to 62 in. lbs. (7 N·m) (Figure 4).

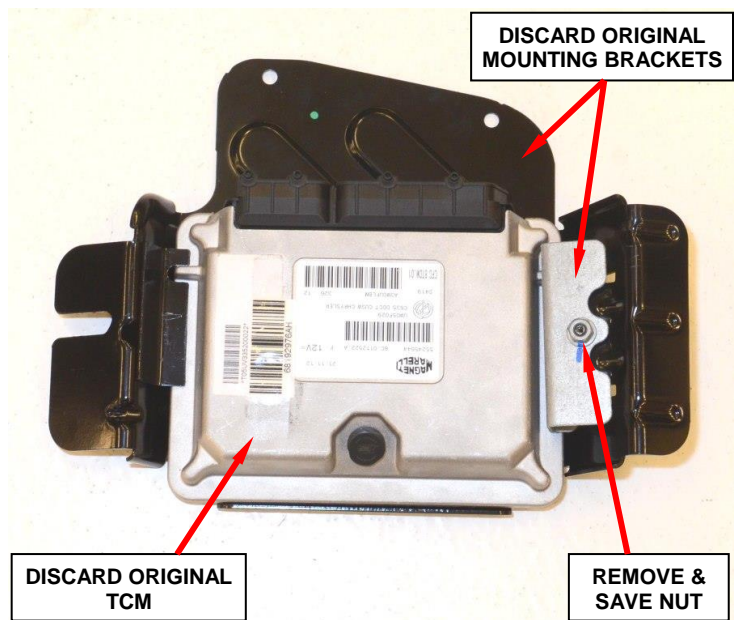


Figure 3 – Original TCM Mounting Bracket and Nut

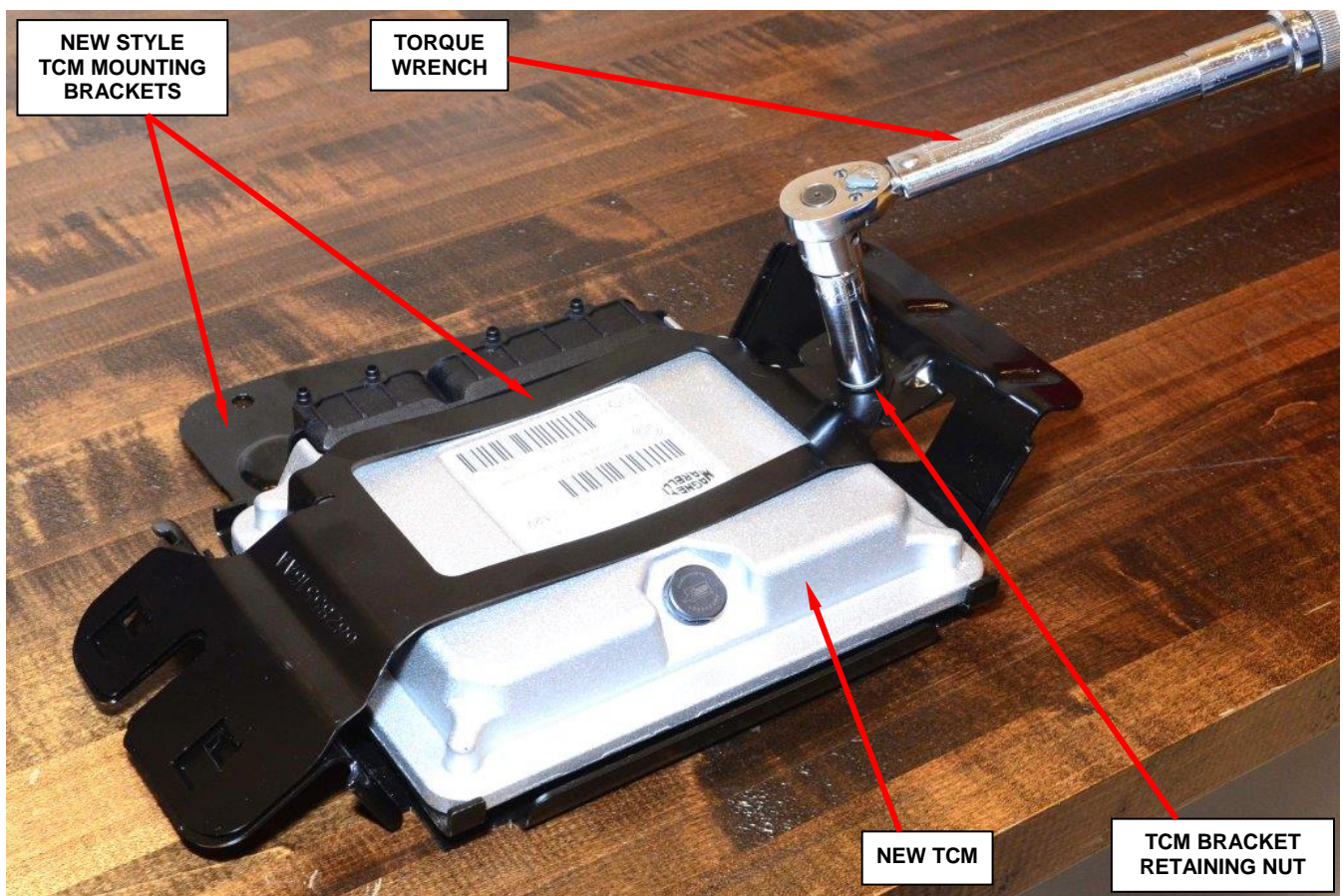


Figure 4 – New Style Bracket with TCM Installed

**Service Procedure (Continued)**

16. Place the new TCM and mounting bracket assembly into the vehicle.
17. Connect the wire harness electrical connectors to the TCM.
18. Engage the locks on the wire harness electrical connectors.
19. Place the TCM mounting bracket in position on the floor, TCM facing downward.
20. Install the nut to hold the TCM mounting bracket to the floor. Tighten the nut to 53 in. lbs. (6 N·m).
21. Roll the carpet in position on the dash panel.
22. Install the side panel on the passenger side of the center floor console (Figure 1).
23. Connect the negative battery cable.
24. Continue with **Section B. Program Transmission Control Module (TCM)**.

**Service Procedure (Continued)****B. Program Transmission Control Module (TCM)**

1. Connect a battery charger to the vehicle.
2. Connect a Micro-pod II to the vehicle data link connector.
3. Start a wiTECH session.
4. Enter the vehicle VIN number (if prompted).
5. From the “**Vehicle View**” screen, select the “**TCM**” icon.
6. Select the correct flash file from the list.
7. Follow the screen prompts to complete the programming of the TCM.
8. After completing the programing, continue to the “**Misc. Functions**” tab.
9. From the “**Misc. Functions**” tab, select “**Reset of Data Group**” from the list.
10. Follow the screen prompts to complete the task.
11. From the “**Misc. Functions**” tab, select “**Quick Learn**” from the list.
12. Follow the screen prompts to complete the task.
13. From the “**Misc. Functions**” tab, select “**Learn Clutches Contact Point**” from the list.
14. Follow the screen prompts to complete the task.
15. Clear all Diagnostic Trouble Codes (DTC’s).
16. Remove the Micro-pod II from the vehicle data link connector.
17. Remove the battery charger from the vehicle.
18. Close the hood and return the vehicle to the customer.

**Complete Proof of Correction Form for California Residents**

This recall is subject to the State of California Registration Renewal/Emissions Recall Enforcement Program. Complete a Vehicle Emission Recall Proof of Correction Form (Form No. 81-016-1053) and **supply it to vehicle owners residing in the state of California** for proof that this recall has been performed when they renew the vehicle registration.

**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 FCA to record recall service completions and provide dealer payments.

Use the following labor operation number and time allowance:

	<b>Labor Operation Number</b>	<b>Time Allowance</b>
Replace the transmission control module and program	08-R4-21-82	0.7 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**

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 FCA 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  
FCA US LLC

## **IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL**

**R42 / NHTSA 15V-542**

This notice applies to your vehicle (VIN: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx).

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Dear: (Name)

FCA has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain **2013 through 2015 model year Dodge Dart vehicles** equipped with a 1.4L engine and a Dry Dual Clutch Transaxle (DDCT).

**The problem is...** **The Transmission Control Module (TCM) mounting bracket on your vehicle may cause the printed circuit board solder joints to separate, resulting in an electrical open circuit in the TCM. An open circuit in the TCM could cause the transaxle to shift into “Neutral” without warning. Having the transaxle unintentionally shift into “Neutral” could cause a crash without warning.**

**What your dealer will do...** **FCA will repair your vehicle free of charge.** To do this, your dealer will replace the TCM and TCM mounting bracket. The work will take about one hour to complete. However, additional time may be necessary depending on service schedules.

**What you must do to ensure your safety...** Simply **contact your Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge or RAM 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. **Please 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 the FCA Group Recall Assistance Center at either **fcarecalls.com** or 1-800-853-1403.

**California residents...** The State of California requires the completion of emission recall repairs prior to vehicle registration renewal. Your dealer will provide you with a Vehicle Emission Recall Proof of Correction Form after the recall service is performed. Be sure to save this form since the California Department of Motor Vehicles may require that you supply it as proof that the recall has been performed.

Please help us update our records by filling out the attached prepaid postcard if any of the conditions listed on the card apply to you or your vehicle. If you have further questions go to **fcarecalls.com**.

If you have already experienced this specific condition and have paid to have it repaired, you may visit **www.fcarecallreimbursement.com** to submit your reimbursement request online or you can mail your original receipts and proof of payment to the following address for reimbursement consideration: **FCA Customer Assistance, P.O. Box 21-8004, Auburn Hills, MI 48321-8007, Attention: Recall Reimbursement.** Once we receive and verify the required documents, reimbursement will be sent to you within 60 days. If you've had previous repairs and/or reimbursement you may still need to have the recall repair performed on your vehicle.

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, 1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E., Washington, DC 20590, or you can call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to **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  
FCA US LLC

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