

Dealer Service Instructions for:

Safety Recall No. 964 -- Starter Terminal Block

Models

2001 (PL) Dodge Neon R/T

NOTE: This recall applies only to the above vehicles equipped with a 2.0L High Output engine ("F" in the 8th VIN Position) built through October 23, 2000 (MDH 102307).

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 DIAL VIP System.

Subject

The starter motor terminal block on about 15 of the above vehicles may crack. This may allow the positive battery cable to short circuit, which could cause an engine compartment fire.

Repair

The starter motor terminal block must be replaced.

Parts Information

<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
CAA09640	Terminal Block

Each dealer to whom vehicles in the recall were invoiced (or the current dealer at the same street address) will receive enough Terminal Blocks to service 100% of those vehicles.

Service Procedure

1. Disconnect the negative battery cable.

NOTE: To enhance customer satisfaction, remember to reset the clock when you have completed the service procedure.

2. Disconnect the throttle body idle air control (IAC) motor and throttle position sensor (TPS) electrical connectors (Figure 1).
3. Disconnect the IAC and TPS wiring harness from the air cleaner box.
4. Disconnect the inlet air temperature sensor electrical connector (Figure 2).
5. Disconnect the vapor purge line at the 90° elbow connector near the power distribution center (Figure 2).
6. Remove the Powertrain Control Module (PCM) wiring harness from the two clips on the air cleaner box (Figure 1).
7. Remove the two (2) air cleaner box fasteners.

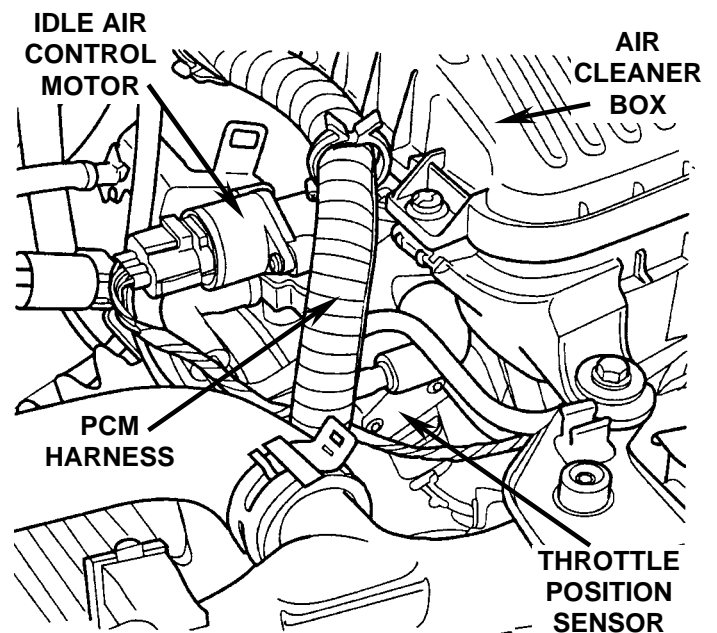


Figure 1

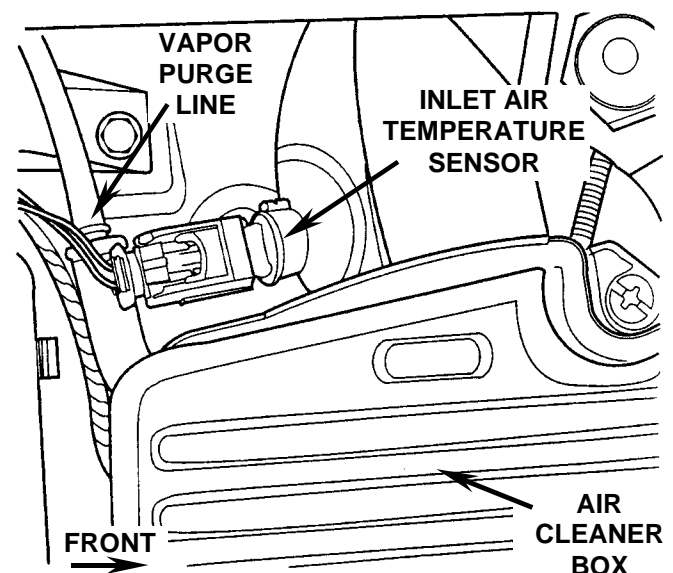
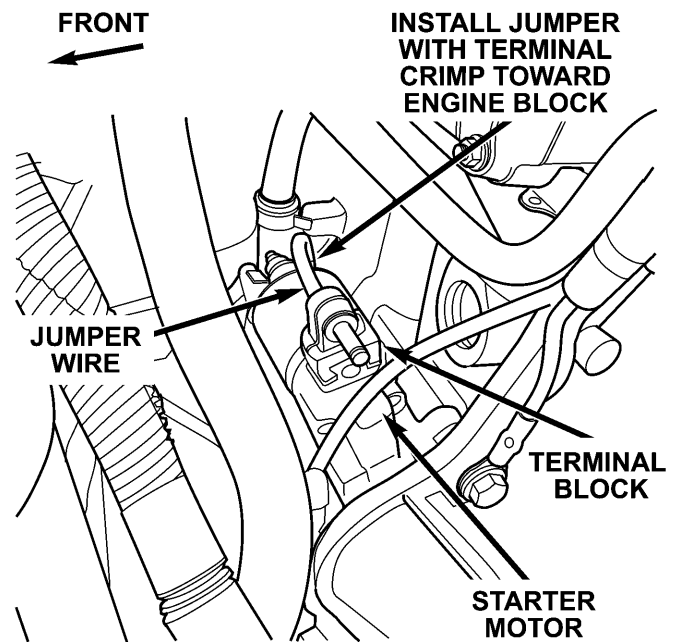


Figure 2

Service Procedure (Continued)

8. Disconnect the air inlet hose from the intake manifold.
9. Remove the throttle cable and speed control cable (if equipped) from the clamp on the upper radiator hose.
10. Remove the air cleaner box assembly and set it aside.
11. Cover the intake manifold opening to prevent debris from falling into the manifold.

12. Disconnect the positive battery cable from the starter terminal block (Figure 3).
13. Disconnect the terminal block jumper wire from the starter solenoid (Figure 3).
14. Using medium force, tap the terminal block stud with a hammer to remove the block from the starter boss (Figure 3).
15. Install the new terminal block onto the starter boss (Figure 3). Lightly tap the terminal block with a small wooden block and a hammer until the terminal block is flush with the starter boss.

**Figure 3**

IMPORTANT: Do NOT tap the stud to install the terminal block or damage to the terminal block will occur.

16. Connect the terminal block jumper wire to the starter solenoid (Figure 3). Tighten the nut to 90 in-lbs (10 N·m).

IMPORTANT: Install the jumper wire with the terminal crimp toward the engine block. Make sure that the jumper wire is routed away from the intake manifold.

17. Connect the positive battery cable to the terminal block (Figure 3). Tighten the nut to 90 in-lbs (10 N·m).

Service Procedure (Continued)

18. Remove the covering from the intake manifold opening.
19. Place the air cleaner box into position and connect the air inlet hose to the intake manifold. Tighten the inlet hose clamp securely.
20. Secure the throttle cable and speed control cable (if equipped) to the upper radiator hose.
21. Install the air cleaner box fasteners.
22. Secure the PCM harness in the clips on the air cleaner box (Figure 1).
23. Connect the vapor purge line (Figure 2).
24. Connect the inlet air temperature sensor electrical connector (Figure 2).
25. Connect the throttle body IAC and TPS electrical connectors (Figure 1). Secure the harness to the air cleaner box with the push clip.
26. Connect the negative battery cable.

Completion Reporting and Reimbursement

Claims for vehicles that have been serviced must be submitted on the DIAL System. 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 starter terminal block	08-96-41-82	0.4 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 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, and the MDS2 will be updated to include this recall in the near future. **Each dealer to whom involved vehicles were invoiced** (or the current dealer at the same street address) **will receive a list of their involved vehicles.** The vehicle list is arranged in Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) sequence. Owners known to DaimlerChrysler are also listed. The lists are for dealer reference in arranging for service of involved vehicles.

DIAL System Functions 53 and VIP

All involved vehicles have been entered to DIAL System Functions 53 and VIP for dealer inquiry as needed.

Function 53 provides involved dealers with an updated VIN list of their incomplete vehicles. The customer name, address and phone number are listed if known. Completed vehicles are removed from Function 53 within several days of repair claim submission. To use this system, type “53” at the “ENTER FUNCTION” prompt, then type “ORD964”.

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.

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.

Vehicle Not Available

If a vehicle is not available for service, let us know by filling out the pre-addressed Owner Notification Form or describe the reason on a postcard and mail to:

DaimlerChrysler Corporation
CIMS 482-00-85
800 Chrysler Drive East
Auburn Hills, Michigan 48326-2757

Additional Information

If you have any questions or need assistance in completing this action, please contact your Zone Service Office.

Customer Services Field Operations
DaimlerChrysler Corporation

DAIMLERCHRYSLER

SAFETY RECALL TO REPLACE YOUR VEHICLE'S STARTER TERMINAL BLOCK

Dear Neon R/T Owner:

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

DaimlerChrysler Corporation has determined that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in some **2001 model year Dodge Neon R/T vehicles**.

The problem is...

The starter motor terminal block on your Neon R/T (identified on the enclosed form) **may crack. This may allow the positive battery cable to short circuit, which could cause an engine compartment fire.**

What DaimlerChrysler and your dealer will do...

DaimlerChrysler will repair your vehicle free of charge (parts and labor). To do this, your dealer will replace the starter motor terminal block. The work will take about 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.
- **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 the dealer is unable to resolve, please contact the DaimlerChrysler Customer Assistance Center at 1-800-853-1403. A representative will assist you.

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 Customer Assistance Center, P.O. Box 1040, St. Charles, MO 63302-1040, Attention: Recall Center.

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
964

***Buckle up
for Safety***