

Dealer Service Instructions for:

## Safety Recall No. 983

### Brake Booster Vacuum Hose

---

#### Models

**2000-2001 (PL) Dodge and Plymouth Neon**

*NOTE: This recall applies only to the above vehicles equipped with a:*

- *2.0L engine (“C” in the 8<sup>th</sup> VIN Position) built through March 21, 2001 (MDH 0321XX) or a*
- *2.0L High Output engine (“F” in the 8<sup>th</sup> VIN Position) built through April 11, 2001 (MDH 0411XX).*

**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 brake booster vacuum hose on about 350,000 of the above vehicles may swell due to oil contamination and become disconnected. A disconnected hose could cause a loss of power brake assist and an increase in engine idle speed. This can increase stopping distance and cause an accident without warning.

#### Repair

The brake booster vacuum hose must be replaced.

**Parts Information**

**Each dealer** to whom vehicles in the recall were invoiced (or the current dealer at the same street address) will receive enough **Brake Booster Vacuum Hoses** to service about **10%** of those vehicles.

Dealers should determine which **brake booster vacuum hose** is required for each vehicle at the time appointments are scheduled to assure that the correct part is available when the customer arrives. The **vacuum hose** for the vehicle to be serviced may be determined by:

- **Using the part code in the third column of the VIN list along with the following table (involved dealers);**
- **Using the VIN and part number list electronically transmitted to DIAL System Function 53 (involved dealers); or**
- **Entering the VIN into the DIAL VIP System (sales code information) along with the following table (all dealers):**

| <b>Engine</b>    | <b>Sales Code</b> | <b>8<sup>th</sup> VIN Character</b> | <b>Part Code</b> | <b>Part Number</b> |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 2.0L             | ECB               | C                                   | 1                | 05080778AA         |
| 2.0L High Output | ECH               | F                                   | 2                | 05273135AB         |

**Service Procedure**

1. **For Neon R/T vehicles equipped with a 2.0L High Output engine:**  
Raise the vehicle on an appropriate hoist.

2. Disconnect the brake booster vacuum hose from the intake manifold nipple (Figure 1).

**NOTE: On Neon R/T vehicles, the intake manifold nipple is located on the rear of the manifold between the #2 and #3 cylinder runners.**

3. **For Neon R/T vehicles equipped with a 2.0L High Output engine:**  
Lower the vehicle.
4. Disconnect the brake booster vacuum hose from the check valve on the brake booster (Figure 2). Do not remove the check valve from the brake booster.

**IMPORTANT: For Neon R/T vehicles equipped with a 2.0L High Output engine, disconnect the brake booster hose from the inline hose connector located near the brake booster. Do NOT disconnect the vacuum hose elbow from the brake booster check valve.**

5. Remove and discard the brake booster vacuum hose.
6. Route the new vacuum hose in the same location as the original hose and then secure the hose with the clips on the left side of the valve cover.
7. Connect the brake booster vacuum hose to the check valve on the brake booster (Figure 2) or to the inline hose connector (Neon R/T vehicles).
8. Connect the brake booster vacuum hose to the intake manifold nipple (Figure 1).

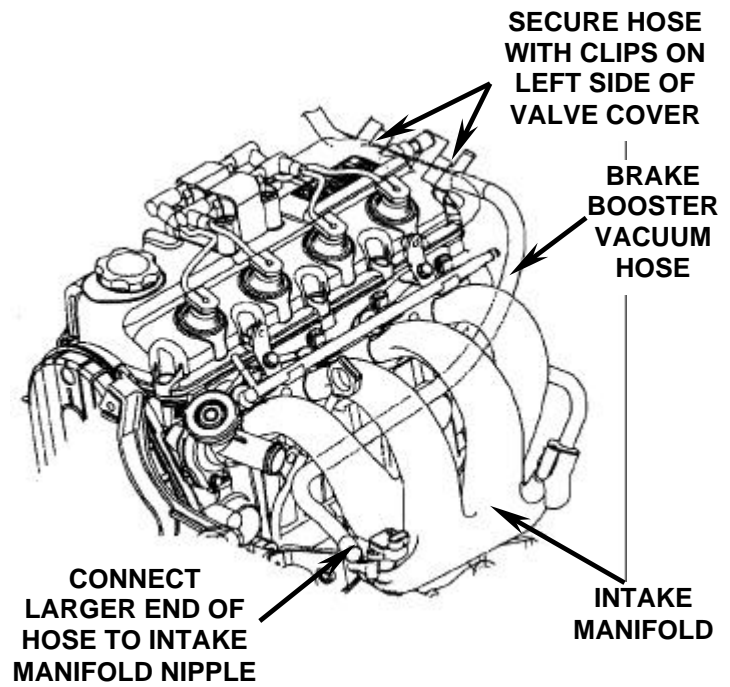


Figure 1

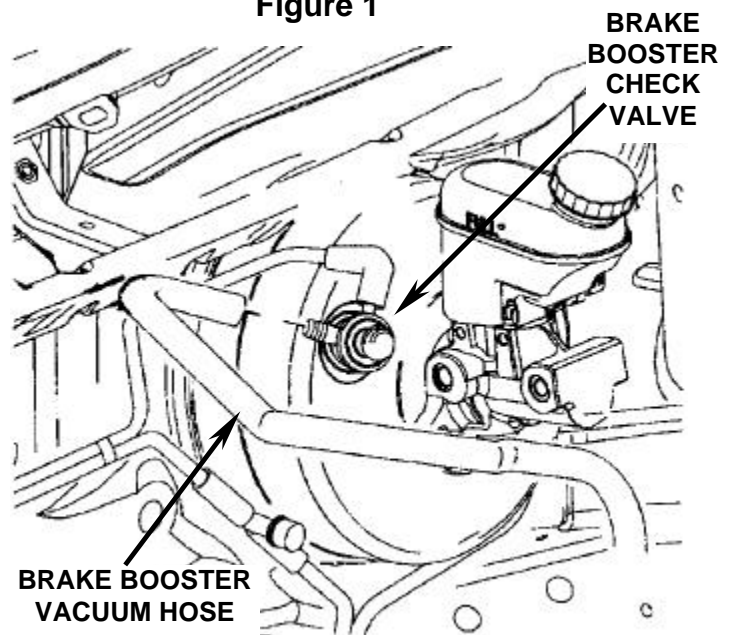


Figure 2

**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:

|                                   | <b>Labor Operation<br/>Number</b> | <b>Time<br/>Allowance</b> |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Replace brake booster vacuum hose | 05-98-31-82                       | 0.2 hours                 |

Add the cost of the hose 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 “ORD983”.

### 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. For most vehicles, 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 BRAKE BOOSTER HOSE***

Dear Neon 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 **2000 and 2001 model year Dodge and Plymouth Neon vehicles.**

***The problem is...***

**The brake booster vacuum hose on your Neon** (identified on the enclosed form) **may swell due to oil contamination and become disconnected. A disconnected hose could cause a loss of power brake assist and an increase in engine idle speed. This can increase stopping distance and cause an accident without warning.**

***What DaimlerChrysler and your dealer will do...***

**DaimlerChrysler will repair your Neon free of charge (parts and labor).** To do this, your dealer will replace the brake booster vacuum hose. 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: 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  
983

***Buckle up  
for Safety***