

NOTE: BEFORE ATTEMPTING THIS RECALL, REVIEW VIP OR VEHICLE HISTORY TAB TO VERIFY THAT THE RECALL APPLIES TO THIS VEHICLE AND HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED.



Recall Notification

No. 731
July, 1997

To: All Dealers

Subject: Safety Recall #731 -- Airbag Control Module

- Models:**
- ☐ 1997 Model Year Dodge and Plymouth Neon (PL) Vehicles Built at the Belvidere Assembly Plant ("D" in the 11th VIN Position) Through September 3, 1996 (MDH 090317)
 - ☐ 1997 Model Year Dodge and Plymouth Neon (PL) Vehicles Built at the Toluca Assembly Plant ("T" in the 11th VIN Position) Through September 9, 1996 (MDH 090906)
 - ☐ 1997 Model Year Dodge Dakota (AN) Vehicles Built Through September 5, 1996 (MDH 090521)
 - ☐ 1997 Model Year Jeep Wrangler (TJ) Vehicles Built Through September 3, 1996 (MDH 090319)
 - ☐ 1997 Model Year Jeep Grand Cherokee (ZJ) Vehicles Built Through September 3, 1996 (MDH 090312)
 - ☐ 1996 Model Year Dodge Viper GTS Coupe (SR) Vehicles Built Through September 30, 1996 (MDH 093014)

The airbags on the above listed vehicles, may inadvertently deploy during a three (3) second period after the ignition key has been turned to the off position, which could injure a vehicle occupant. To correct this condition, the airbag control module (ACM) must be replaced.

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 as determined by using DIAL System Function 70.

Details of this service action are explained in the following sections.

Service Procedure Videotape

No videotape of the service procedure for this recall will be provided.

Dealer Notification & Vehicle List

All dealers will receive a copy of this dealer recall notification letter by first class mail. **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 Chrysler are also listed. The lists are for dealer reference in arranging for service of involved vehicles.

DIAL System Functions 53, 70 and VIP

All involved vehicles will be entered to DIAL System Functions 53, 70 and VIP at the time of recall implementation for dealer inquiry as needed.

Parts

Important: A quantity of parts will be distributed initially and billed to all involved dealers. This quantity will cover a portion of the total vehicles involved. Additional parts may be ordered as needed to support customer demand.

Each involved dealer, to whom vehicles in the recall were invoiced (or the current dealer at the same street address), will receive enough of each ACM Package to service about 25% of those vehicles. Each package contains one (1) ACM. Refer to the table below for the appropriate package application:

Vehicle	Part Number
Neon (PL)	5269971AC
Dakota (AN)	56007420AB
Wrangler (TJ)	56010105AB
Grand Cherokee (ZJ)	56007706AB
Viper GTS Coupe (SR)	4848802AC

Owner Notification and Service Scheduling

All involved vehicle owners known to Chrysler are being notified of the service requirement by first class mail. They are requested to schedule appointments for the service with their dealers. A copy of the owner notification letter is attached.

Enclosed with each owner notification is an Owner Notification Form. The involved vehicle and recall are identified on the form for owner or dealer reference as needed.

Service Procedure for Neon (PL) Vehicles:

1. With the ignition key in the OFF position, disconnect and isolate the negative battery cable. **WAIT TWO (2) MINUTES FOR THE SYSTEM CAPACITOR TO DISCHARGE BEFORE CONTINUING.**

Note: To enhance customer satisfaction, remember to record all radio settings before disconnecting the battery and to reset all electronic memory (clock, radio settings, etc.) when you have completed the service procedure.

2. **For Manual Transmission Equipped Vehicles:** Remove the shifter knob fastener and remove the shifter knob.
3. Remove the front two (2) center console attaching screws located near the cup holders ([Figure 1](#)).
4. Remove the two (2) screws at the bottom of the storage bin ([Figure 2](#)).
5. Remove the bolt access covers and the two lower console bracket bolts on each side of the console bin.
6. Raise the park brake hand lever as high as possible.
7. Remove the center console assembly.

WARNING: The auto adjusting feature of the park brake lever assembly contains a clock spring loaded to approximately 20 lbs. DO NOT release the auto adjuster lock out device before installing the cables into the equalizer. Keep hands out of auto adjuster sector and pawl area. Failure to observe caution in handling this mechanism could lead to serious injury.

8. Lower the park brake handle.
9. Grasp the park brake lever output cable by hand and pull upward until a 3/16" drill bit can be inserted into the handle and sector gear mechanism ([Figure 3](#)). This will remove the tension from the park brake cables.
10. Remove both rear park brake cables from the park brake cable equalizer ([Figure 4](#)).
11. Disconnect the brake warning light electrical connector from the park brake lever switch.
12. Remove the two park brake lever attaching nuts and remove the park brake lever assembly.
13. Disconnect the ACM wiring connector ([Figure 5](#)):

- A. Pull the two white lock bars out about $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm) on each side of the connector.
- B. Squeeze the two (2) connector latch tabs between your thumb and forefinger while pulling the connector out of the module.
14. Remove the remaining three (3) nuts that secure the ACM mounting bracket to the floor, disconnect the two (2) park brake lever switch wire harness clips from the ACM bracket and then remove the ACM and bracket assembly.
15. Install the provided ACM and bracket assembly with the arrow on the module pointing forward.
16. Loosely install the three (3) ACM attaching nuts.
17. Connect the wiring connector to the ACM. Make sure it is fully seated and the lock bars are engaged.
18. Install the park brake lever assembly.
19. Tighten the four (4) ACM nuts and the remaining park brake lever nut to 115 in-lbs (12.5 N·m).
20. Connect the park brake lever switch electrical connector and attach the wiring clips to the ACM bracket.
21. Install both rear park brake cables into the equalizer.
22. Pull the park brake lever handle all the way up.
23. Firmly grasp the park brake lever locking pin (drill bit) and quickly remove it from the mechanism.
24. Cycle the park brake lever once to position the park brake cables.
25. Make sure that the park brake lever is fully raised and then install the center console assembly.
26. Install the front two (2) center console attaching screws located near the cup holders ([Figure 1](#)).
27. Install the two (2) screws at the bottom of the storage bin ([Figure 2](#)).
28. Install the two (2) outer lower console bracket bolts on each side of the storage bin and then install the bolt covers.
29. **For Manual Transmission Equipped Vehicles:** Install the shifter knob and fastener.
30. Connect the DRB III, turn the ignition switch to the ON position and then exit the vehicle with the DRB III.
31. Reconnect the negative battery cable and then watch the airbag light in the instrument cluster, it should light for about 6-8 seconds and then go out.
32. With the DRB III, verify that no system diagnostic codes have been set.

NOTE: If the airbag warning lamp fails to light or the light stays on, or the DRB displays a diagnostic code, a system malfunction exists. Diagnose and repair the condition following normal service procedures.

Service Procedure for Dakota (AN) Vehicles:

1. With the ignition key in the OFF position, disconnect and isolate the negative battery cable. **WAIT TWO (2) MINUTES FOR THE SYSTEM CAPACITOR TO DISCHARGE BEFORE CONTINUING.**

Note: To enhance customer satisfaction, remember to record all radio settings before disconnecting the battery and to reset all electronic memory (clock, radio settings, etc.) when you have completed the service procedure.

2. Pull back the floor carpet from the area around the center instrument panel support.
3. Remove the two (2) front center support bracket screws ([Figure 6](#)).
4. Remove the two (2) left side and one (1) right side support bracket screws ([Figure 6](#)).
5. Remove the support bracket.
6. Remove the ground eyelet screw from the left side of the ACM bracket.
7. Disconnect the ACM wiring connector ([Figure 7](#)):
 - A. Pull the two white lock bars out about $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm) on each side of the connector.
 - B. Squeeze the two (2) connector latch tabs between your thumb and forefinger while pulling the connector out of the module.
8. Remove the three (3) screws that secure the ACM mounting bracket to the floor pan transmission tunnel ([Figure 8](#)).
9. Remove the ACM and bracket assembly.
10. Install the provided ACM and bracket assembly with the arrow on the module pointing forward.
11. Tighten the three (3) ACM to floorpan transmission tunnel attaching screws to 105 in-lbs (11.8 N·m).
12. Connect the wiring connector to the ACM. Make sure it is fully seated and the lock bars are engaged.
13. Install the ground eyelet screw to the left side of the ACM bracket.
14. Install the center instrument panel support bracket.
15. Install the two (2) left side and one (1) right side support bracket screws ([Figure 6](#)). Tighten the bracket screws to 105 in-lbs (11.8 N·m).
16. Install the two (2) front center support bracket screws ([Figure 6](#)). Tighten the bracket screws to 105 in-lbs (11.8 N·m).
17. Reinstall the floor carpet around the center instrument panel support.
18. Connect the DRB III, turn the ignition switch to the ON position and then exit the vehicle with the DRB III.
19. Reconnect the negative battery cable and then watch the airbag light in the instrument cluster, it should light for about 6-8 seconds and then go out.
20. With the DRB III, verify that no system diagnostic codes have been set.

NOTE: If the airbag warning lamp fails to light or the light stays on, or the DRB displays a diagnostic code, a system malfunction exists. Diagnose and repair the condition following normal service procedures.

Service Procedure for Wrangler (TJ) Vehicles:

1. With the ignition key in the OFF position, disconnect and isolate the negative battery cable. **WAIT TWO (2) MINUTES FOR THE SYSTEM CAPACITOR TODISCHARGE BEFORE CONTINUING.**

Note: To enhance customer satisfaction, remember to record all radio settings before disconnecting the battery and to reset all electronic memory (clock, radio settings, etc.) when you have completed the service procedure.

2. Pull back the floor carpet from the area under the heater-A/C housing floor duct and forward of the center floor console.
3. **For vehicles equipped with ABS:** Remove the ABS acceleration sensor from its mounting bracket and set aside ([Figure 9](#)).
4. Remove the four (4) screws that secure the ACM mounting bracket to the floor pan transmission tunnel ([Figure 10](#)).
5. Disconnect the ACM wiring connector ([Figure 11](#)):
 - A. Pull the two white lock bars out about $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm) on each side of the connector.
 - B. Squeeze the two (2) connector latch tabs between your thumb and forefinger while pulling the connector out of the module.
6. Slide the ACM and bracket assembly out from under the heater-A/C housing floor duct and remove it from the vehicle.
7. Install the provided ACM and bracket assembly with the arrow on the module pointing forward.
8. Connect the wiring connector to the ACM. Make sure it is fully seated and the lock bars are engaged.
9. Tighten the four (4) ACM to floorpan transmission tunnel attaching screws to 95 in-lbs (10.7 N·m) ([Figure 10](#)).
10. **For vehicles equipped with ABS:** Reinstall the ABS acceleration sensor ([Figure 9](#)). Tighten the sensor mounting bolts to 40 in-lbs (4.5 N·m).
11. Reinstall the floor carpet under the heater-A/C floor duct.
12. Connect the DRB III, turn the ignition switch to the ON position and then exit the vehicle with the DRB III.
13. Reconnect the negative battery cable and then watch the airbag light in the instrument cluster, it should light for about 6-8 seconds and then go out.
14. With the DRB III, verify that no system diagnostic codes have been set.

NOTE: If the airbag warning lamp fails to light or the light stays on, or the DRB displays a diagnostic code, a system malfunction exists. Diagnose and repair the condition following normal service procedures.

Service Procedure for Grand Cherokee (ZJ) Vehicles:

1. With the ignition key in the OFF position, disconnect and isolate the negative battery cable. **WAIT TWO (2) MINUTES FOR THE SYSTEM CAPACITOR TO DISCHARGE BEFORE CONTINUING.**

Note: To enhance customer satisfaction, remember to record all radio settings before disconnecting the battery and to reset all electronic memory (clock, radio settings, etc.) when you have completed the service procedure.

2. Remove the transmission shift lever handle by pulling straight up firmly and quickly.
3. Pry up the transmission shift indicator bezel with a trim stick ([Figure 12](#)).
4. Lift the bezel far enough to remove the lamp socket from the bezel and then remove the transmission shift indicator bezel from the console.
5. Pry up the transfer case shift indicator bezel with a trim stick ([Figure 12](#)).
6. Lift the bezel far enough to remove the lamp socket from the bezel and then remove the transfer case bezel from the console.
7. Remove the console attaching screws and then remove the console ([Figure 12](#)).
8. Disconnect the ACM wiring connector ([Figure 13](#)):
 - A. Pull the two white lock bars out about $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm) on each side of the connector.
 - B. Squeeze the two (2) connector latch tabs between your thumb and forefinger while pulling the connector out of the module.
9. Remove the four (4) screws that secure the ACM mounting bracket to the floor transmission tunnel ([Figure 14](#)).
10. Remove the ACM and bracket assembly.
11. Install the provided ACM and bracket assembly with the arrow on the module pointing forward.
12. Tighten the four (4) ACM attaching screws to 95 in-lbs (10.7 N·m).
13. Connect the wiring connector to the ACM. Make sure it is fully seated and the lock bars are engaged.
14. Install the console and secure it with the attaching screws ([Figure 12](#)).

15. Install the lamp socket into the transfer case shift bezel and then install the bezel into the console ([Figure 12](#)).
16. Install the lamp socket into the transmission shift indicator bezel and then install the bezel into the console ([Figure 12](#)).
17. Install the transmission shift lever handle.
18. Connect the DRB III, turn the ignition switch to the ON position and then exit the vehicle with the DRB III.
19. Reconnect the negative battery cable and then watch the airbag light in the instrument cluster, it should light for about 6-8 seconds and then go out.
20. With the DRB III, verify that no system diagnostic codes have been set.

NOTE: If the airbag warning lamp fails to light or the light stays on, or the DRB displays a diagnostic code, a system malfunction exists. Diagnose and repair the condition following normal service procedures.

Service Procedure for Viper GTS Coupe (SR) Vehicles:

1. Remove the left rear wheel and tire assembly.
2. Remove the left rear wheel well inner splash shield.
3. With the ignition key in the OFF position, disconnect and isolate the negative battery cable. **WAIT TWO (2) MINUTES FOR THE SYSTEM CAPACITOR TO DISCHARGE BEFORE CONTINUING.**

Note: To enhance customer satisfaction, remember to record all radio settings before disconnecting the battery and to reset all electronic memory (clock, radio settings, etc.) when you have completed the service procedure.

4. Remove the instrument panel center bezel and then disconnect the rear window defogger switch, the power window switches and the lighter ([Figure 15](#)).
5. Remove the right and left knee blockers ([Figure 16](#)).
6. Remove the headlamp switch knob by inserting a paper clip in the hole under the knob and pushing gently to release the lock clip ([Figure 16](#)).
7. Remove the tilt steering handle
8. Remove the upper steering column shroud.
9. Remove the instrument panel bezel ([Figure 16](#)).

NOTE: Be careful not to break the headlamp switch lock tab when removing the I/P bezel.

10. Remove the two (2) radio mounting screws.
11. Remove the radio and disconnect the wire connector, coaxial cable and antenna cable.
12. Remove the radio from the vehicle.
13. Remove the HVAC control module. Only disconnect the vacuum and electrical connectors. Do not disconnect the cable. Set the control module aside.
14. Reach through the radio opening and disconnect the ACM wiring connector ([Figure 17](#)):
 - A. Pull the two white lock bars out about $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm) on each side of the connector.
 - B. Squeeze the two (2) connector latch tabs between your thumb and forefinger while pulling the connector out of the module.
15. Remove the three (3) nuts that secure the ACM mounting bracket to the floor pan transmission tunnel ([Figure 18](#)).
16. Slide the ACM and bracket assembly out through the radio opening.
17. Install the provided ACM and bracket assembly with the arrow on the module pointing forward.
18. Tighten the three (3) ACM to floorpan transmission tunnel attaching screws to 95 in-lbs (10.7 N·m).
19. Connect the wiring connector to the ACM. Make sure it is fully seated and the lock bars are engaged.
20. Connect the HVAC control head electrical and vacuum connectors. Install the HVAC control module.
21. Connect the radio wire connector, coaxial cable and antenna cable.
22. Install the radio into the instrument panel and tighten the two (2) mounting screws.
23. Install the instrument panel bezel ([Figure 16](#)).

NOTE: Be careful when installing the I/P bezel. Do not break the headlamp switch lock tab.

24. Install the headlamp switch knob ([Figure 16](#)).
25. Install the upper steering column cover.
26. Install the tilt steering handle.
27. Install the right and left knee blockers ([Figure 16](#)).
28. Connect the rear window defogger switch, the power window switches and the lighter and then install the instrument panel center bezel ([Figure 15](#)).
29. Connect the DRB III, turn the ignition switch to the ON position and then exit the vehicle with the DRB III.
30. Reconnect the negative battery cable and then watch the airbag light in the instrument cluster, it should light for

about 6-8 seconds and then go out.

31. With the DRB III, verify that no system diagnostic codes have been set.

NOTE: If the airbag warning lamp fails to light or the light stays on, or the DRB displays a diagnostic code, a system malfunction exists. Diagnose and repair the condition following normal service procedures.

32. Install the left rear wheel well inner splash shield.

33. Install the left rear wheel and tire assembly.

Completion Reporting and Reimbursement

Claims for vehicles which have been serviced must be submitted on the DIAL System. Claims submitted will be used by Chrysler to record recall service completions and provide dealer payments.

Use one of the following labor operation numbers and time allowances:

Description	Labor Operation No.	Time
Replace ACM:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Neon (PL)	08731182	0.6 Hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> Dakota (AN)	08731183	0.6 Hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> Wrangler (TJ)	08731184	0.4 Hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> Grand Cherokee (ZJ)	08731185	0.5 Hrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> Viper GTS (SR)	08731186	1.4 Hrs.

Parts Return

Initially, a small number of ACM and bracket assemblies are required to be returned to the Warranty Material Return Center. When an adequate number of returned parts have been accumulated, Parts Return Documents will no longer be generated and parts are to be discarded.

Note: See the Warranty Administration Manual, Recall Claim Processing Section for complete recall claim processing and material return instructions.

Vehicle Not Available

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

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

Following the above procedures will expedite the processing of your claim.

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

Customer Services Field Operations
Chrysler Corporation

IMPORTANT

DEALER SERVICE INSTRUCTIONS

Safety Recall #731 -- Airbag Control Module

- Effective immediately, this recall (#731) cancels and supercedes Recall #683 --Airbag Control Module for 1997 Jeep Wrangler (TJ) vehicles.

- This service requirement applies only to:
 - **1997 Model Year Dodge and Plymouth Neon (PL) Vehicles Built at the Belvidere Assembly Plant ("D" in the 11th VIN Position) Through September 3, 1996 (MDH 090317)**
 - **1997 Model Year Dodge and Plymouth Neon (PL) Vehicles Built at the Toluca Assembly Plant ("T" in the 11th VIN Position) Through September 9, 1996 (MDH 090906)**
 - **1997 Model Year Dodge Dakota (AN) Vehicles Built Through September 5, 1996 (MDH 090521)**
 - **1997 Model Year Jeep Wrangler (TJ) Vehicles Built Through September 3, 1996 (MDH 090319)**
 - **1997 Model Year Jeep Grand Cherokee (ZJ) Vehicles Built Through September 3, 1996 (MDH 090312)**
 - **1996 Model Year Dodge Viper GTS Coupe (SR) Vehicles Built Through September 30, 1996 (MDH 093014)**
- The airbags on the above listed vehicles, may inadvertently deploy during a three (3) second period after the ignition key has been turned to the off position. To correct this condition, the airbag control module (ACM) must be replaced.

Parts Packages:

- Each involved dealer, to whom vehicles in the recall were invoiced, will receive enough ACM Packages to service about 25% of those vehicles.



SAFETY RECALL TO REPLACE YOUR VEHICLE'S AIRBAG CONTROL MODULE

Dear Chrysler Vehicle Owner:

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

Chrysler Corporation has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in some **1997 Plymouth and Dodge Neon; Dodge Dakota; Jeep Grand Cherokee and Wrangler; and 1996 Dodge Viper GTS Coupe vehicles.**

The problem is...

The airbags on your vehicle (identified on the enclosed form), **may inadvertently deploy during a three (3) second period after the ignition key has been turned to the off position, which could injure a vehicle occupant.**

What Chrysler and your dealer will do...

Chrysler will repair your (vehicle) free of charge (parts and labor). To do this, your dealer will replace the airbag control module. The work will take about one 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.

☐ **Bring the enclosed Owner Notification Form with you to your dealer.** It explains the required service to the dealer.

If you need help...

If you have trouble getting your vehicle repaired, please **call the Chrysler Customer Center, toll free, at 1-800-853-1403.** A representative will assist you in getting your vehicle repaired. 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, D.C. 20590, or call the Toll Free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-800-424-9393. (Washington, D.C. area residents may call 366-0123.)

We're sorry for any inconvenience, but we are sincerely concerned about your safety. Thanks for your attention to this important matter.

Customer Services Field Operations

*Buckle up
for Safety* 