

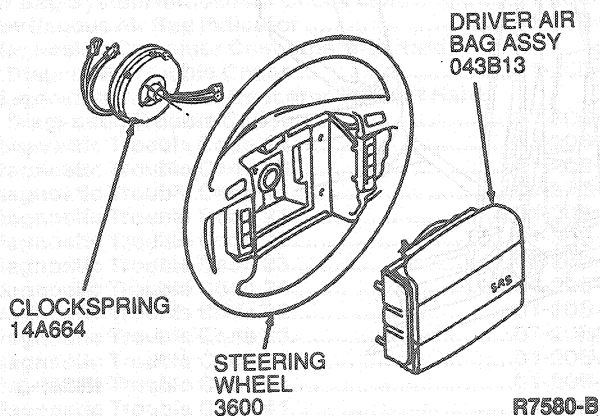
DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Mounting Plate and Retainer Ring

The mounting plate and retainer ring attach and seal the bag assembly to the inflator. The mounting bracket is also used to attach the trim cover and to mount the entire module to the wheel. These items are components of the air bag module and cannot be serviced.

Steering Wheel Trim Cover

The cover encases the air bag assembly. When the air bag is activated, tear seams moulded into the steering wheel trim cover separate to allow inflation of the bag assembly. The cover is a component of the air bag module and is not serviceable.

**Inflator**

The passenger air bag inflator is not a serviceable item. As with the driver air bag, an igniter inside the inflator converts to electrical energy to thermal (heat) energy, causing ignition of the gas generant. The ignition reaction causes combustion of the sodium azide / iron oxide gas generant producing nitrogen to fill the bag. Since the passenger air bag is much larger than the driver air bag, it contains more gas generant in a different inflator configuration to produce more nitrogen gas.

Passenger Air Bag Assembly

The passenger air bag is constructed of ripstop nylon. The bag fills to a volume of approximately 8 cubic ft. It is not a serviceable item.

Reaction Housing

The steel housing supplies support for the inflator, a reaction surface for the air bag is used to attach the trim cover. It contains mounting brackets that attach the air bag to the instrument panel and is not a serviceable item.

Trim Cover

The thermo-plastic trim cover is textured and painted to match the surface of the instrument panel. It is constructed with a moulded-in tear seam that separates when the air bag inflates, and hinges out of the way during deployment. Its main function is to retain the air bag in the reaction housing during vehicle operation. It is not a serviceable item.

Passenger Air Bag, Optional

NOTE: Vehicles that have the letters SRS located above the glove compartment come equipped with a passenger air bag. For vehicles without a passenger air bag, refer to Section 01-12 for instrument panel cover description.

CAUTION: The passenger air bag is serviced as a complete assembly.

The passenger air bag is mounted in the RH position of the instrument panel above the glove compartment. The air bag assembly consists of the following components:

- Inflator
- Bag Assembly
- Reaction housing with mounting hardware
- Trim cover

