

**Wheels: Paul H writes by e-mail:** *“If you are aware of any local radio repair shops, within 60 miles of Dayton I would greatly appreciate relative info. Or, if that fails, maybe out of the area repair businesses. Thanks in advance for your assistance. I never miss your article in each DDN Saturday 'Wheels'.*

*It has a Panasonic 6CD AM/FM Cassette radio.*

*Panasonic made this combination unit for some Mazda models about 8 years ago or so, followed by a limited number of the radios being available for purchase through Comtron International. When it became known to our Miami Valley Miata Club, that the unit could be installed in 1990 to 1997 Miata's with very little modification, a bunch of us purchased them early in 2003. The model number is YL84 18C868-AC ). It's been a great product, but recently, after loading 5 CD's, the sixth became jammed about half the way in resulting in the CD unit being inoperative – radio and cassette are okay. Where can I take/send for repair?”*

**Halderman:**

I checked around with those who should know and they do not have any idea of anyone anymore who does radio repair. I suggest you see about getting a replacement unit from a wrecking yard.

I also did an Internet search and while I did get a lot of “hits”, for places that are shown to do radio repairs, most only deal with replacing the radio with another unit.

**Wheels:**

*Why are there few or no places that perform vehicle radio repairs?*

**Halderman:**

I think the reason is money. It takes a lot of training plus access to parts for a shop to offer radio repairs. Other factors that I think affect this include:

- Radios today are better and last longer
- Many radios are now part other systems in the vehicle such as speed controlled volume. This means that radio has an input over a data communications network that takes vehicle speed information from the speed sensor.
- Most radio units today include an anti-theft feature that requires a code number to work if power is removed. This makes the radio not able to work unless it matches the vehicle identification number (VIN) of the vehicle. Therefore this features makes it harder to install a radio from another vehicle unless it is reprogrammed using a scan tool.

The one place that I was able to find that might be able to help has a web site.

<http://www.carradio.com/>

