



U.S. Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

**DOT Auto Safety Hotline**  
**Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire**  
To Report Vehicle Safety Defects  
1-888-DASH-2-DOT  
(1-888-327-4236)  
INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

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Date Received

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Reference No.  
10006284

**OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)**

Name: [REDACTED]  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: RIALTO State: CA Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Daytime Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Evening Telephone Number

Do you authorize NHTSA to contact you or your vehicle?  
In the absence of an authorized signature, you are authorizing NHTSA to contact the vehicle manufacturer.  
Signature of Owner: [REDACTED] Date: / /  YES  NO

**VEHICLE INFORMATION**

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number located at bottom of windshield on driver's side:  
NOT AVAILABLE 1FALP5T04TAZ44415  
Make: FORD Model: TAURUS Model Year: 1996  
Date Purchased: Dealer's Name and Telephone Number: Engine: No. Cylinders: 6 Fuel Type: GAS  
Original Owner:  Dealer's City: State: Zip Code:  
Transmission Type: AUTOMATIC  Antilock Brakes Powertrain: Vehicle Component Code: 191000 TIRES/TREAD/BELT  
 Cruise Control Multiple Failure:

**FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION**

Incident Date(s): 11-02, 01-24-03 Failure Mileage: 33,000, 37,000 Failure Speed: 70 MPH  
NOTICED FIRST TIRE FLAT SPOTS AND TIRE BLOW UP WITHOUT WARNING

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE**

Tire Make: GENERAL G4S Tire Model (Name or Number): G4S Tire Size (Example P225/65R15): 205/65/15  
DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036): DOTACUR442990  Original Equipment  Prior Repair Failure Location: RIGHT FRONT, RIGHT REAR  
Tire Component Code: Tire Failure Type: TREAD SEPARATION

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE**

Make: Date Manufactured: Model No./Name:  
Seat Type: Installation System:  
Child Seat Component Code: Failed Part:

**APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION**

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injuries.)

Crash:  Yes  No Fire:  Yes  No  
Number of Persons Injured: Number of Deaths: Reported to Police: N

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).  
Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e. parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

GENERAL G4S 20565R15 DOTACUR442990, THE RIGHT REAR TIRE, THE THREE REMAINING TIRES HAVE FLAT SPOTS ALL AROUND. PLEASE PROVIDE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION. PH

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice. ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579) This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies)

WHEN I BOUGHT THE CAR, I NOTICED ONE TIRE HAD A SLOW LEAK. THIS TIRE WAS ROTATED AROUND 04/001. ON 11/13/2002 I WAS ROTATING THE TIRES AT 33,000 MILES AND NOTICED A SERIES OF OVAL-SHAPED FLAT SPOTS DEVELOPING IN A DIAGONAL PATTERN ACROSS THE WIDTH OF THE TREAD ALONG A 12" LENGTH OF THE TREAD. THIS TIRE WAS MOVED TO THE RIGHT FRONT DRIVING TIRE POSITION. I CONTACTED FORD & GENERAL TIRE TO REPORT DEFECT, BUT GOT NO RESPONSE. ON 01/14/03 THE TIRE THAT I MOVED FROM THE RIGHT FRONT TO THE RIGHT REAR DURING 11/02 ROTATION ~~BEFORE~~ SUFFERED FROM SUDDEN TREAD SEPARATION AND DEFLATE WHILE TRAVELING ON FREEWAY AT 70 MPH DURING THE DAY. TIRE PRESSURE WAS CHECKED TWO DAYS EARLIER. ALL TIRES WERE CHECKED 11/02 WHEN THE FLAT SPOTS ON THE FIRST TIRE WERE NOTICED. NO OTHER DEFECTS WERE SEEN AT THAT TIME. I HAVE BEEN ON THE INTERNET ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY AND A NUMBER OF OTHER FORD TRUPOS OWNERS HAVE HAD SIMILAR PROBLEMS WITH THESE TIRES.



US Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use \$300

**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**  
FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO 75173 WASHINGTON, D.C.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY NATL. HWY. TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN.

U.S. Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Office of Defects Investigation, NVS-216  
400 7th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590



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OWNER'S  
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**DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE**

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OR

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and dial toll free at

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**1-888-327-4238**

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(DASH) 2 DOT



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