



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

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100145

Date Received: **MAY 03 2003** Repository:
Reference No.: 10015084

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name: [Redacted] Daytime Telephone Number: [Redacted] E-mail Address: [Redacted]
Address: [Redacted] Evening Telephone Number: [Redacted]
City: **SHREWSBURY** State: **MA** Zip Code: [Redacted]

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? YES NO
In the absence of a signature or address to the vehicle manufacturer, Signature of Owner: [Redacted] Date: **4-1-1**

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 Digit Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) based at location indicated on form: **WAUCB28D4VA067664** Make: **AUDI** Model: **A4** Model Year: **1999**
Date Purchased: **2/99** Dealer's Name and Telephone Number: **Wagner Motors** Engine: No. Cylinders: **4** Fuel Type: **Gas**
Original Owner: Dealer's City: [Redacted] State: [Redacted] Zip Code: [Redacted]
Transmission Type: **Manual** Antilock Brakes Cruise Control Powertrain: [Redacted] Vehicle Component Code: **061000 ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING:ENGINE**
Multiple Failure: **1**

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s): **02-APR-2003** Failure Mileage: **83000** Failure Speed: **80-70** **Timing belt broke. Zero clearance engine caused total loss of engine compression**

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make: [Redacted] Tire Model (Name or Number): [Redacted] Tire Size (Example P215/65R15): [Redacted]
DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036): [Redacted] Original Equipment Prior Repair: Failure Location: [Redacted]
Tire Component Code: [Redacted] Tire Failure Type: [Redacted]

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

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

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

This failure occurred with no warning. No suggested maintenance for timing belt in owners maintenance manual. Because the 1.8T engine ^{As early as 1998} this failure causes immediate loss of engine compression and total failure of engine. (Complete replacement necessary.) To this day Audi USA recommends timing belt replacement at 90k miles, even though independent Audi mechanics have already seen a rash of engine failures with much less than 90k miles. I believe this to be a safety issue and Audi should be required to alert owners to the need to replace the timing belt at some mileage much less than 90k.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

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400 Seventh St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20590

Official Business Penalty for Private Use \$300



NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

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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

