



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 231

Date Received  
2004 NOV -  
28-JUL-2004

Repository   
Reference No.  
10083681

**OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)**

Name [REDACTED]  
Address [REDACTED]  
City ALLENTOWN State PA Zip Code [REDACTED]

Daytime Telephone Number [REDACTED] E-mail Address [REDACTED]  
Evening Telephone Number [REDACTED]

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle?  YES  NO  
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.  
Signature of Owner [REDACTED] Date 10/18/2004

**VEHICLE INFORMATION**

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at: bottom of windshield on driver's side  
WBADM6326YE [REDACTED] Make BMW Model 528i Model Year 1999  
Date Purchased 6-6-02 Dealer's Name and Telephone Number West German BMW/ Engine: No. Cylinders 6 Fuel Type: premium  
Original Owner [REDACTED] Dealer's City Ft. Washington State PA Zip Code [REDACTED]  
Transmission Type Automatic Antilock Brakes  Cruise Control  Powertrain [REDACTED] Vehicle Component Code Automatic 102000 POWER TRAIN:MANUAL TRANSMISSION  
Multiple Failure: 1

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

Incident Date(s) 28-JUL-2004 Failure Mileage 114,000 Failure Speed 45 mph Gear Selector switch

**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)  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]  
Child Seat Component Code: [REDACTED] Failed Part: [REDACTED]

**APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION**

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

Crash  Yes  No Fire  Yes  No Number of Persons Injured 0 Number of Deaths 0 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).

WHILE DRIVING ON WET PAVEMENT MOTORCYCLE SHIFTED INTO SECOND GEAR AND BECAME STUCK. DEALER WAS CONTACTED. \*AK  
Transmission

There was excessive water on the roads; 6"-12" of standing water on some roads due to heavy rains.

Also the transmission became stuck in 1st gear after driving a short distance in 2nd gear. I was fortunate that this did not happen on the highway.

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.

Bayerische Motoren Werke (BMW)

Models: 528iA Years: 1998

Number Involved: 3,800

Dates of Manufacture: August - November 1997

NHTSA Recall No.: 98V143

Vehicle Description:

Description of Defect: The sealing material of the transmission gear position switch can develop

leaks and allow water entry. This can eventually result in an incorrect indication of the gear

position, which could cause the car not to start, or allow it to start in a drive gear, such as

"Drive" or "Reverse."

Remedy: Dealers will replace the transmission gear position switch. Owner notification is

expected to begin the end of August 1998.

Owner Notification: Owners who do not receive the free remedy within a reasonable time should

contact BMW at 1-800-831-1117.

Joe Milington

Daniels BMW

610-820-2950

Joe - 2984

NHTSA  
98V143

Joe, 610-820-2984  
Milington

Daniels BMW

610-820-2950

THE ATTACHMENTS TO THIS  
DOCUMENT HAVE BEEN REMOVED  
TO PROTECT UNWARRANTED  
INVASION OF PERSONAL PRIVACY  
PURSUANT TO EXEMPTION 6 OF  
THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).