



NHTSA #: ES05-007360  
XREF #:  
Delivery: MESSENGER ENV.

Rec'd Date: 9/8/2005  
Doc Type: CNG  
Address To: DOT/I

Referred By: NEC-110  
Doc Date: 8/9/2005  
Due Date: 9/16/2005

S10 #: [REDACTED] DOT/I #: 2005-5175 RMP #:  
Subject: FAX FM [REDACTED] (NY) REQUEST INVESTIGATION INTO THE RECALL OF  
IGNITION SWITCH/STEERING COLUMN WIRING OF THEIR 1995 DODGE RAM 1500 PICKUP TRUCK  
WHICH BURNED WHEN STEERING COLUMN CAUGHT FIRE, REPLY TO THE MASSAPEQUA PARK OFC,  
DOT/# 2005-5175

Ack Date:  
Sign Office: EXTERNAL  
AFFAIRS  
Cleared Date:  
File Loc:  
Added By: SHARRIS x62534

Ack By:  
Signature: HARRINGTON  
Cleared By:  
XREF File:  
Modified By: SHARRIS

Signed For:  
Cleared For:  
Closed Date:

Most Recent Comment:

**Author:**

PETER KING  
U.S HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
Tel: 202-225-7896 Fax: E-mail:

Assigned To	Task	Asgn Date	Deadline	Returned Date
NVS-200	REPLY	9/7/2005	9/16/2005	
NVS-010	INFORMATION	9/7/2005		9/7/2005
NOA02	INFORMATION	9/7/2005		9/7/2005
NIA-110	INFORMATION	9/7/2005		9/7/2005
H10	INFORMATION	9/7/2005		9/7/2005
I20	INFORMATION	9/7/2005		9/7/2005

*OPJ*

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
2005 SEP -7 A 11: 20  
TRANSPORTATION

*SH*

PETER T. KING

Member of Congress  
Third District, New York

436 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3203  
(202) 225-7888

1003 PARK BOULEVARD  
MASSAPEQUA PARK, NY 11762  
(516) 541-4225

For Suffolk County:  
(831) 541-4225

[peter.king@mail.house.gov](mailto:peter.king@mail.house.gov)  
[www.house.gov/peterking](http://www.house.gov/peterking)



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-3203

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY  
CHAIRMAN: SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE

VICE-CHAIRMAN: SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
EUROPE

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

FAX COVER SHEET

TO: Ms. Nasci

FAX: (202) 366-3675

FROM:

Kevin DeLury, District Representative  
Congressman Peter T. King  
1003 Park Boulevard  
Massapequa Park, NY 11762  
TEL: (516) 541-4225  
FAX: (516) 541-6602  
E-mail: [kevin.delury@mail.house.gov](mailto:kevin.delury@mail.house.gov)

TOTAL # OF PAGES: 13

RE: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS:

2005-5175

**PETER T. KING**

Member of Congress  
Third District, New York

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-3203

August 9, 2005

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY  
CHAIRMAN SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE

VICE-CHAIRMAN SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
EUROPE

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Ms. Nicole Nason  
Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 Seventh Street, SW, Room 10408  
Washington, DC 20590

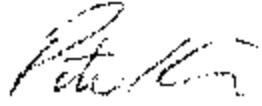
Dear Ms. Nason:

The attached communication is sent for your consideration. Please investigate the statements contained therein and respond to me with the necessary information for reply, returning the enclosed correspondence with your answer.

Send all correspondence to my Massapequa Park District Office at 1003 Park Blvd., Massapequa Park, New York 11762.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
PETER T. KING  
Member of Congress

PTK/kd

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
Massapequa, NY [Redacted]  
July 18, 2005

Representative Peter King  
1003 Park Blvd.  
Massapequa, New York

Dear Representative King:

On March 9, 2005, we purchased a 1995 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup from Lee Dodge, Farmingdale, New York. On July 1, 2005 smoke and flames emanated from the steering column and rapidly engulfed the truck while it was parked. Fire department report is attached. The vehicle is a total loss. (see attached photos, more can be supplied if needed)

An internet search yielded information citing a history and a manufacturer recall (#875, partial copy attached) for "ignition switch and/or steering column wiring". We contacted a representative of Lee Dodge, "Matt", who could find no record of the safety recall items being performed on the truck prior to the sale.

We contacted the manufacturer, Daimler Chrysler Corp. Upon providing the vin # their representative stated, "I can tell you why your truck burned, YOU failed to bring it in for service, there are two open recalls on this truck!". I informed the gentleman that I only owned the truck for several months, and that I bought it from a Dodge dealership and never received information concerning recalls.

He then replied, "they (Lee Dodge) had knowledge, had

possession of the vehicle and had ample opportunity to perform the services; however, there is no record that the recall was performed." He issued a claim# and arranged for inspection of the vehicle. The vehicle was inspected on 7/10/2005 by Bill Pirnak of EAA ( Engineering Analysis Associates - phone # 1-631-379-2127).

Repeated attempts to contact the dealership, specifically Mr. Pensa, yielded a response denying any further obligation because of the mileage of the vehicle when it was purchased. Mr. Pensa's only issue was the mileage, not the recall, not public safety!

We are now in receipt of a letter from Daimler Chrysler denying our claim. We have been denied access to the inspectors report concerning the possible cause. We were told by Maryann Weinberg of the impartial services group (1-800-777-8119) that we would have to subpoena the company in order to have access to any information in that report.

We have also filed an investigation with the NHTSA office of defects. The complaint is attached. We filed the complaint via the internet on Friday evening July 8, 2005. As to date, we have not been contacted by the office of defects concerning this matter.

The response to such a serious public safety matter is reprehensible. Tragically, someone would have to sustain injury before litigation to end this criminal neglect would be cost effective. We appreciate anything you can do to ensure public safety and to help us to recover the loss we have sustained. Thank you and God Bless You!

[Redacted] Sincerely: [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

## Massapequa Fire Department Dispatch Summary

**Incident Number:** 2005-001130

**Box, Zone or District:** G-3

**Time:** 00:57:00

**Date:** 07/01/2005

**Address:** 21 FORD DR NORTH

**Cross Streets:** CARMEN GATE and EMILY ST

**Occupant:**

**Dispatch Call Type:** Vehicle Fire

**Additional Call Info:**

**Priority:**

**Dispatcher:** 057

### Additional Comments

### Non Vehicle Time Stamps

Time	Apparatus	Description	Location (if applicable)
00:57:38		Beginning of Alarm	21 FORD DR NORTH
01:44:20		End of Alarm	21 FORD DR NORTH

### Vehicle Time Stamps

Unit #	In route to scene	Unit at scene	Unit released	In route to hospital	Unit at hospital	Unit available	Stand by at your location	Unit available
634	01:02:13	01:05:16	01:31:59	-	-	01:42:01	-	01:42:01
636	01:04:27	01:08:14	01:32:00	-	-	01:42:01	-	01:42:01

### Vehicle Time Stamp Comments

**A**  30039 FDID  Massapequa Fire Department Fire Department  NY State  07/01/2005 Incident Date  Station  2 Exposure  Basic

**B Location**  
 7 - Street Address Type  21 Number/Milepost  FORD DR NORTH Street or Highway  Census Tract   
 MASSAPEQUA City  NY State  11758-3714 Zip Code   
 CARMEN GATE

**C Incident Type**  
 130 - Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other

**E<sub>1</sub> Dates & Times**

	Date	Time
Alarm	07/01/2005	00:57
Time Out	07/01/2005	01:02
Arrival	07/01/2005	01:08
Controlled	07/01/2005	
Last Unit	07/01/2005	01:44

**E<sub>2</sub> Shift & Alarms**  
 Shift  Alarms

**D Aid Given or Received**  
 None   
 Mutual Aid Code  Their FDID   
 Their State  Their Inc. #

**E<sub>3</sub> Special Studies**  
 Special Study ID  Special Study Value

**F Actions Taken**  
 1 80 - Information, investigation & enforcement, other  
 2  
 3

**G<sub>1</sub> Resources**  
 Check if Apparatus or Personnel form is used

	Apparatus	Personnel
Suppression	0	0
EMS	0	0
Other	0	0
Personnel Not on Apparatus		0
Total Personnel		0

Include Aid from Resources

**G<sub>2</sub> Est. Dollar Losses & Values**

**LOSSES:**  
 Property   
 Contents

**PRE-INCIDENT VALUE**  
 Property   
 Contents

**Completed Modules**

FIRE-2  HazMat-7  
 Structure-3  Wildland Fire-8  
 Civilian Fire Cas.-4  Apparatus-9  
 Fire Serv. Casualty-5  Personnel-10  
 EMS-6  Arson-11

**H<sub>1</sub> Casualties**

	Deaths	Injuries
Fire Service	0	0
Civilian	0	0

**H<sub>2</sub> Detector**

**H<sub>3</sub> Hazardous Materials Release**

Mixed Use Property

**J Property Use**  960 - Street, other

**K<sub>1</sub> Person/Entity**

Business name (if applicable)  Phone Number

Mr., Ms, Mrs.  First Name  MI  Last Name  Suffix

21 Number  FORD DR NORTH Street or Highway   
 Prefix  Street Type  Suffix   
 Post Office Box  Apt/Suite/Floor  NY State



Recall #875 Ignition Switch Wiring

DodgeRam.info &gt; TSB's &gt; Recalls &gt; Recall 875

# Safety Recall #875

Ignition Switch Wiring

Advertisement



Date: March 2000

VIN # 3B7HF13Z [REDACTED]

Models: 1994-1996 (BR) Dodge Ram Trucks

NOTE: This recall applies only to the above vehicles built at the:

- Warren Assembly Plant ("S" in the 11th VIN position) through April 4, 1996 (MDH 0404XX);
- St. Louis North Assembly Plant ("J" in the 11th VIN position) through March 23, 1996 (MDH 0323XX);
- Lago Alberto Assembly Plant ("M" in the 11th VIN position) through April 14, 1996 (MDH 0414XX);
- Saitillo Assembly Plant ("G" in the 11th VIN position) through April 14, 1996 (MDH 0414XX).

**IMPORTANT:** Some of the involved vehicles may be in dealer used vehicle inventory. Dealers should complete this recall service on these vehicles before retail delivery. Dealers should also perform this recall on vehicles in for service. Involved vehicles can be determined by using the DIAL VIP System.

**Subject:**

The ignition switch and/or steering column wiring on about 710,000 of the above vehicles may overheat when the blower motor is operated at high speed for an extended period of time. This can cause loss of blower motor or power window operation, ABS or airbag lamp illumination or a steering column/instrument panel fire.

**Repair:**

A blower motor relay and overlay harness must be installed to remove the blower motor circuit from the ignition switch. In addition, the ignition switch and electrical connector must be inspected for damage and replaced if necessary.

**Parts:****A. Ignition Switch Wiring Package****CBXR8750 Ignition Switch Wiring Package**

Each package contains the following components:

# DAIMLERCHRYSLER

DaimlerChrysler Corporation  
Customer Claims Resolution Group

July 12, 2005

**Via U.S. Mail**

[Redacted]

Massapequa, NY [Redacted]

**Re: 1995 Dodge Ram 1500, VIN 3B7HF1 [Redacted]**

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for contacting DaimlerChrysler Corporation and raising concerns that you have with the above referenced vehicle. DaimlerChrysler Corporation conducted an investigation into the incident and inspected the vehicle.

Based on the information we received, DaimlerChrysler Corporation must deny your claim. Thank you again for raising your concerns with DaimlerChrysler Corporation. We suggest further inquires be directed to your insurance company.

Very truly yours,

Customer Claims Resolution Group



# Office of Defects Investigation

## VOQ Confirmation

Your Complaint Information is successfully submitted.

Your Confirmation number (ODI Number) is: 10128156

### Your Complaint Information

#### Consumer Information

Name: [REDACTED]  
 Org. Name: [REDACTED]  
 Address: [REDACTED]  
 City, state, ZIP: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
 Country: USA  
 Daytime Phone: [REDACTED] Ext: [REDACTED]  
 Evening Phone: [REDACTED] Fax: [REDACTED]  
 E-mail: [REDACTED]

#### Complaint Information

**Description:** On 3/09/05 we bought a 1995 dodge ram 1500 pickup from Lee Dodge in Farmingdale, NY. On 7/02/05 the vehicle began to have smoke come out of the steering column and then proceeded to ignite into flames. The entire truck was engulfed in minutes and this truck was totaled. After this incident we found out that there was a recall back in the year 2000 for ignition wires that were overheating. The Dodge manufacturer informed us that the recalls were never done and it was very possible that this problem caused the fire and is sending an Inspector on 7/10/05 to determine this fact. The manufacturer Lee Dodge was responsible to have done BEFORE they sold the vehicle; Lee Dodge has been unresponsive to date. This truck is a total loss and our neighbor's tree went up in flames as well. It could have been our homes as well as family members inside the vehicle. This is a very serious safety issue that needs to be addressed and Lee Dodge needs to be held responsible for ignoring those recalls before someone else is injured or dies. Who knows how many other trucks/cars they sell with safety issues!

Incident Date: 7/1/2005  
 Num. Failures: 1  
 Num. Deaths: 0  
 Num. Injured: 0  
 Referral Source: INTERNET  
 Fire: Yes  
 Property Damage: Yes  
 Crash: No  
 Police Report: Yes

top

**Vehicle Information**

VIN: 3B7NP132 [REDACTED] Purchase Date: 3/9/2005  
 Manufacturer: DAIMLERCHRYSLER CORPORATION  
 Year, Make and Model: 1995/DODGE [REDACTED] Original Owner: No  
 # of Cylinders: 8 Trans. Type: AUTOMATIC  
 Engine Size: Vehicle's Usable Usage: LIGHT TRUCK  
 Cruise Control: Yes AntiLock Brakes: Yes  
 Current Mileage: 140000 Speed: 0  
 Retire Mileage: 140000 Powertrain: 4 WHEEL DRIVE  
 Body Style: PICKUP TRUCK Fuel System:  
 Fuel Type: GAS Vehicle Type:

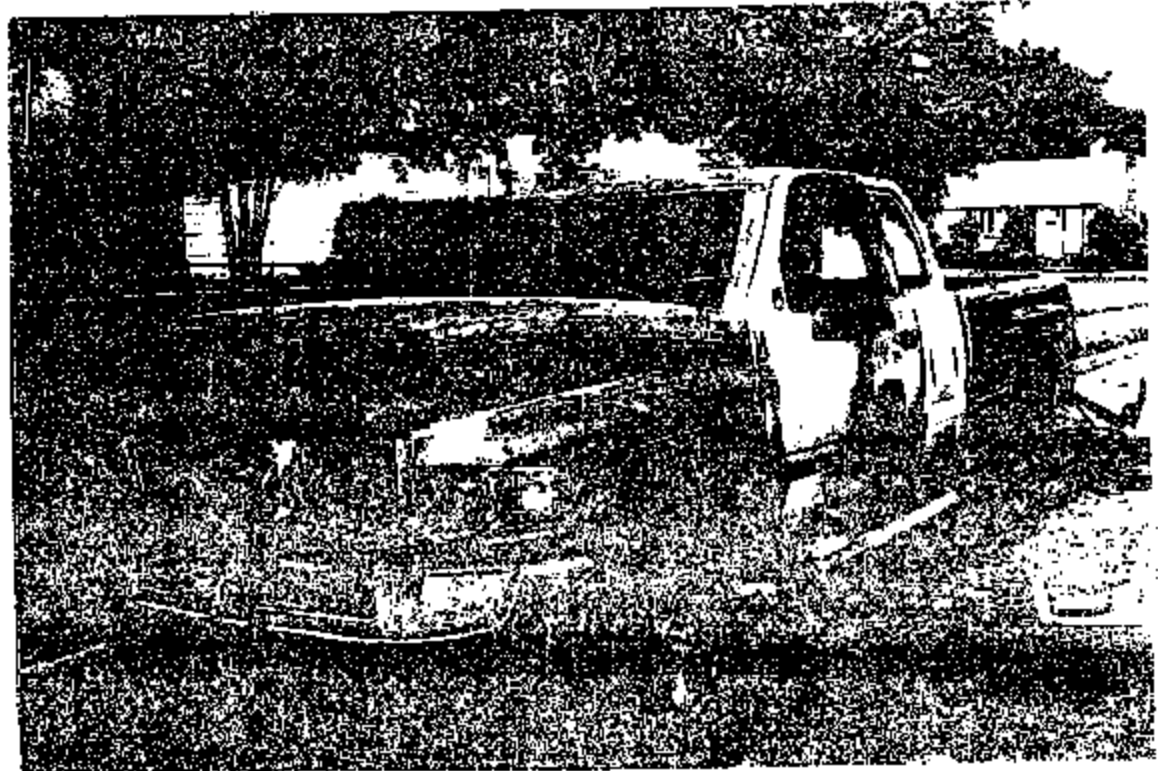
**Vehicle Component Information**

Component 1: ELECTRICAL SYSTEM/IGNITION  
 GEN: Yes

**Vehicle Dealer Information**

# Dealer: 1  
 Name: Lee Dodge  
 Address: 330 Sawkill Street  
 Farmingdale  
 NY 11735  
 Dealer Phone: 516-249-2200  
 Dealer Fax: 516-249-1043  
 Email:

000



25-Aug-05

# 2005 House Report - Governmental Affairs (I-10) Correspondence Control Sheet - Room 10408

**Control Number:** 2005 5175  
**Date DOT Received:** 8/9/2005  
**Date DOT Entered:** 8/9/2005  
**Member's Date:** 8/9/2005  
**Member Last Name:** [REDACTED]  
**Member First Name:** [REDACTED]  
**Member Organization:** Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
**Address 1:** 1003 Park Boulevard  
**Address 2:**  
**City:** Massapequa Park  
**State:** NY  
**Zip:** 11762  
**Constituent File Name:** [REDACTED]  
**Constituent Date:**  
**Action Office:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
**Subject:** their 1995 Dodge Ram  
**Due Date:** 9/16/2005  
**Action Office Code:** NHTSA  
**Member Contact:** Kevin DeLury  
**Pending:** Yes  
**Member Contact Phone:** [REDACTED]  
**Closed Date:**  
**Remarks:**  
**Direct Reply/Comback Copy:** Yes  
**Congressional Affairs Contact:** Maria Harrison at (202) 366-4573

SECRETARIAT  
P 2 17  
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN.