



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 100148

Date Received
 2007 JAN 16 AM 9:40
 05-DEC-2006
 Repository
 Reference No.
 10175234

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name [REDACTED] Daytime Telephone Number [REDACTED] E-mail Address [REDACTED]
 Address [REDACTED]
 City SAGINAW State MI Zip Code [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 _____ Date ____/____/____

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side
 WBABF332 [REDACTED] Make BMW Model 325IS Model Year 1995
 Date Purchased 16-MAY-06 Dealer's Name and Telephone Number _____ Engine: No: Cylinders 6 Fuel type: Gas
 Original Owner Dealer's City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Transmission Type Antilock Brakes Powertrain REAR WHEEL DRIVE Vehicle Component Code 022000 SUSPENSION:REAR
 MANUAL Cruise Control Multiple Failure: 1

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s) 26-NOV-2006 Failure Mileage 51818 Failure Speed 5

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make _____ Tire Model (Name or Number) _____ Tire Size (Example P215/65R15) _____
 DOT No. (Example: DOTMAL9ABC036) Original Equipment Prior Repair Failure Location: _____
 Tire Component Code _____ Tire Failure Type _____

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 injury (ies).)

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).

DT*: THE CONTACT STATED WHILE THE VEHICLE WAS BACKING UP OUT OF A DRIVEWAY AT 5 MPH, A NOISE WAS HEARD. THE CONTACT INSPECTED THE VEHICLE AND NOTICED THE REAR PASSENGER SIDE WHEEL SEPARATED FROM THE CONTROL ARM SUPPORT. THE BOLTS THAT ATTACHED THE WHEEL WERE FRACTURED. PRIOR TO THE INCIDENT, THERE WERE NO WARNING LIGHTS TO ALERT THE CONTACT. THE DEALERSHIP WAS CONTACTED WHO INFORMED THE CONTACT THE REPAIR MUST BE COVERED AT THE CONTACT'S EXPENSE. THE MANUFACTURER WAS ALSO CONTACTED WHO COINCIDED WITH THE DEALERSHIP. THE CONTACT EXPRESSED CONCERN BECAUSE THIS TYPE OF FAILURE AT HIGHER SPEEDS COULD RESULT IN FATAL CONSEQUENCES AND THE MANUFACTURER SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH DEFECT. THE VEHICLE REMAINED INOPERABLE SINCE THE INCIDENT OCCURRED.

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.

[REDACTED]
Saginaw, MI
[REDACTED]

December 27, 2006

Us Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation, NVS-210
400 7th ST SW
Washington DC 20077-8214

Narrative Description of Incident

Ref: 1995 BMW 325is.

ID: WBABF3 [REDACTED]

Having noticed a knocking sound when I drove over bumps in the road for 5 days and having been scared to take my car to work as it had become noticeably worse, I decided to have my neighbor listen for a knocking sound that had begun to happen when I applied the brakes. I was moving at 5 miles per hour in my driveway when I firmly applied the brakes and felt the unnerving sensation of my car moving after I applied the brakes. Upon looking at the car it was obvious that something was wrong as the passenger side rear wheel was firmly lodged into the back of the wheel arch! I instantly raised the car so as to relieve any potentially unnecessary stress on the vehicle and looked under the vehicle.

Upon looking at the underside of the vehicle the control arm that secures the passenger side rear wheel to the sub frame had separated from the sub frame. There are 3 bolts that secure the control arm to the sub frame. One of these appears to have sheared, while the other two have ripped completely from the sub frame; not only have the bolts ripped from the frame but they have pulled through the female section to which they are bolted.

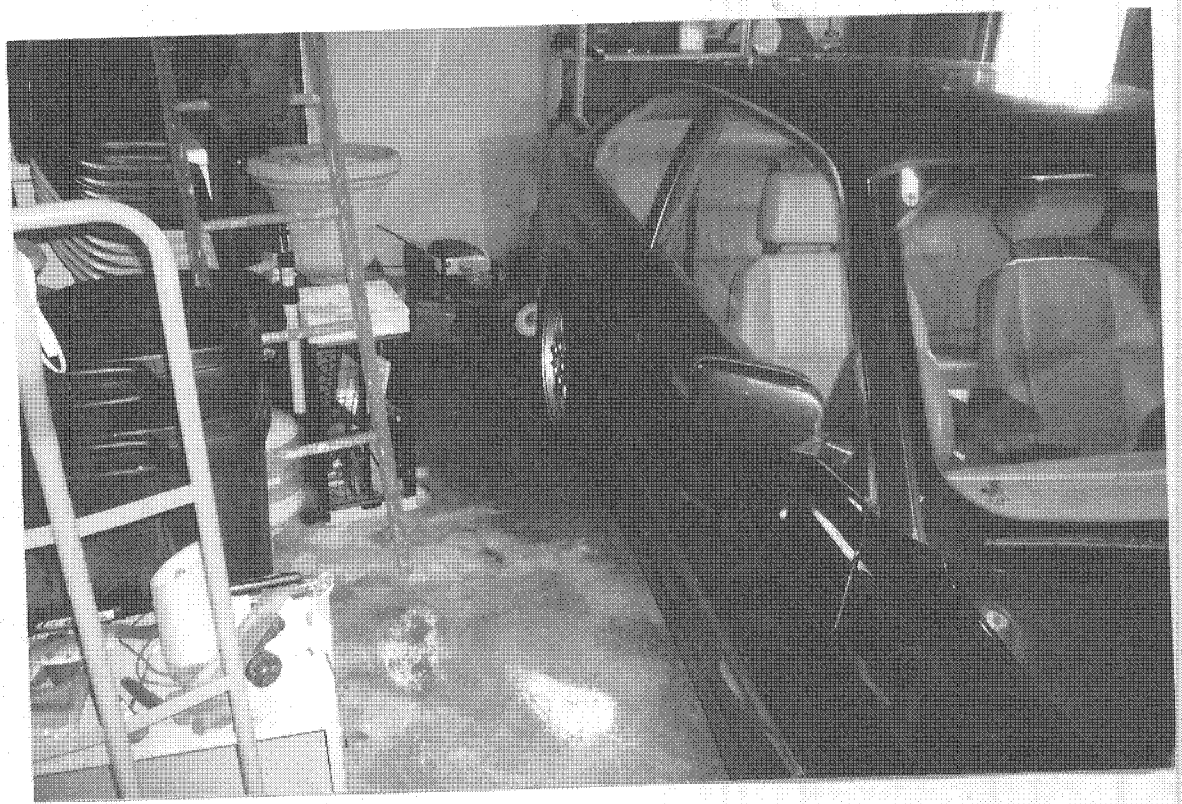
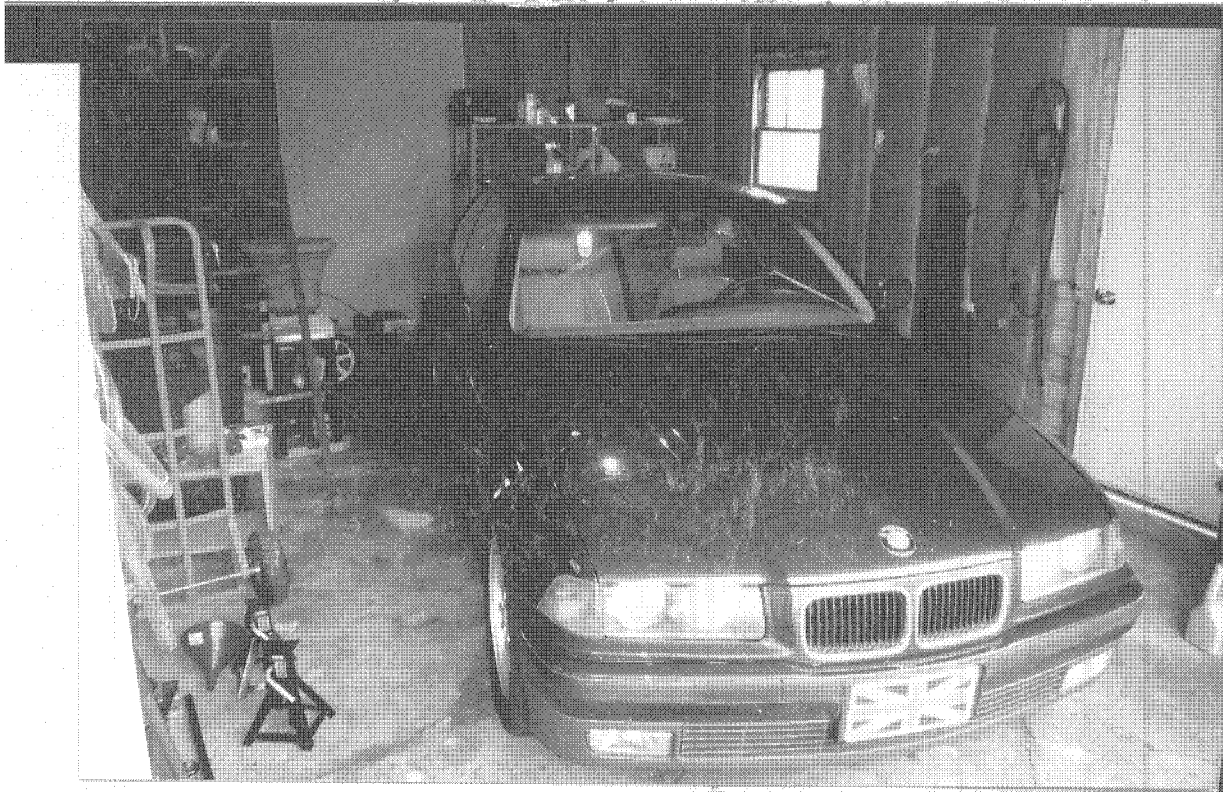
Having looked on the internet I have found others that have experienced this problem, and not only that, but BMW will gladly SELL reinforcing brackets at \$25 each for each wheel station plus labor to prevent this problem. This is no good to the unfortunate people such as me who have already suffered. I do not understand why such a serious and potentially fatal problem has not been taken care of already. Thank goodness this happened in my driveway at 5mph and not at 55mph as it could have if I had driven it to work the night before, but my gut instincts told me not to.

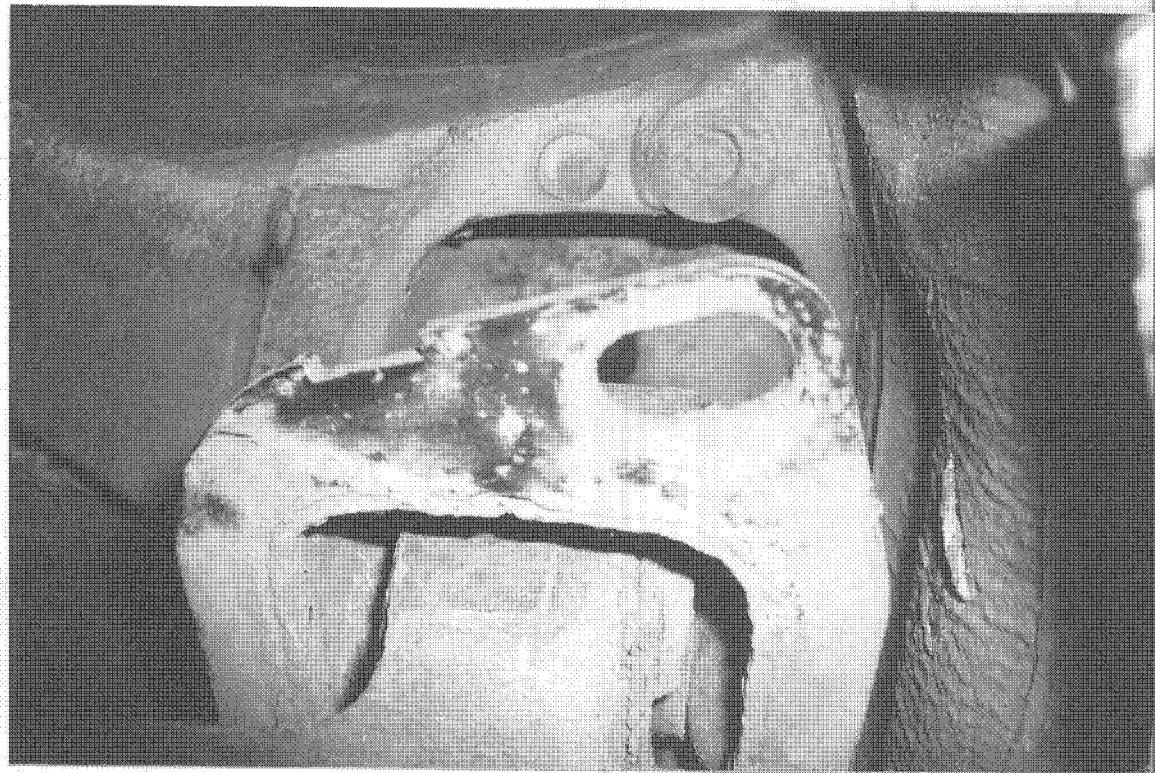
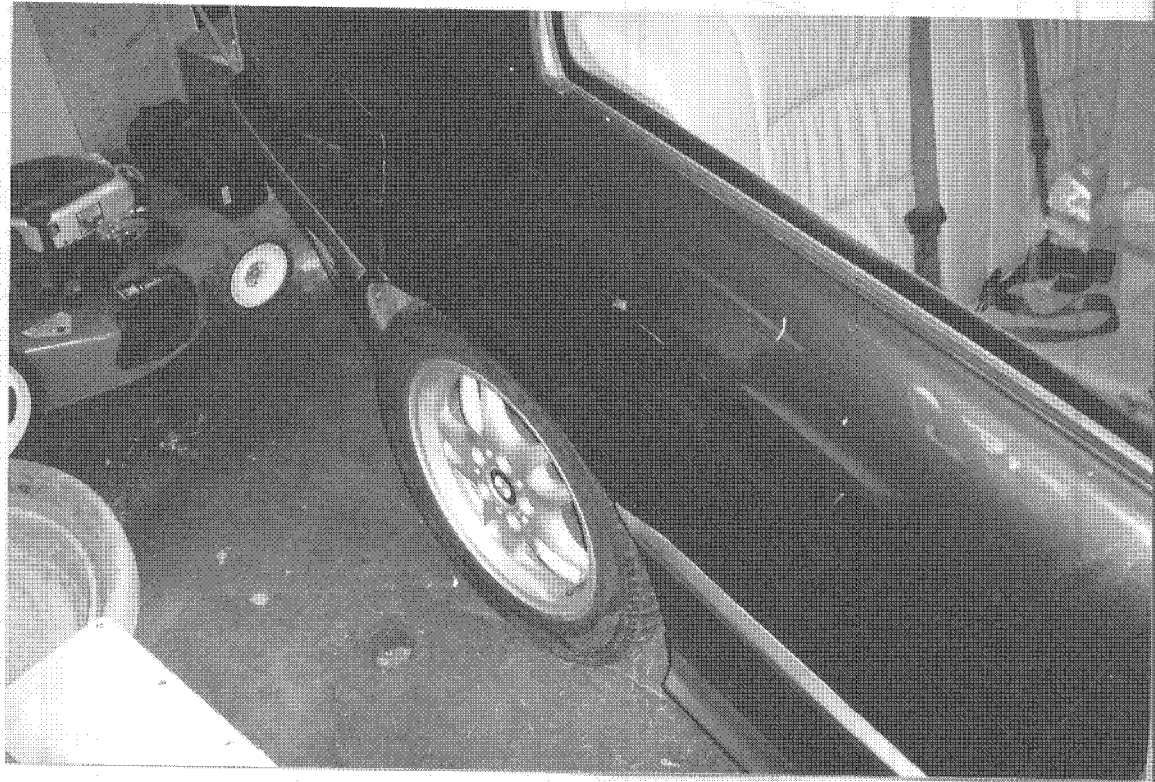
I greatly appreciate your time, and would certainly appreciate your feedback. Please find enclosed photographs that may help you in your investigations.

Sincerely,

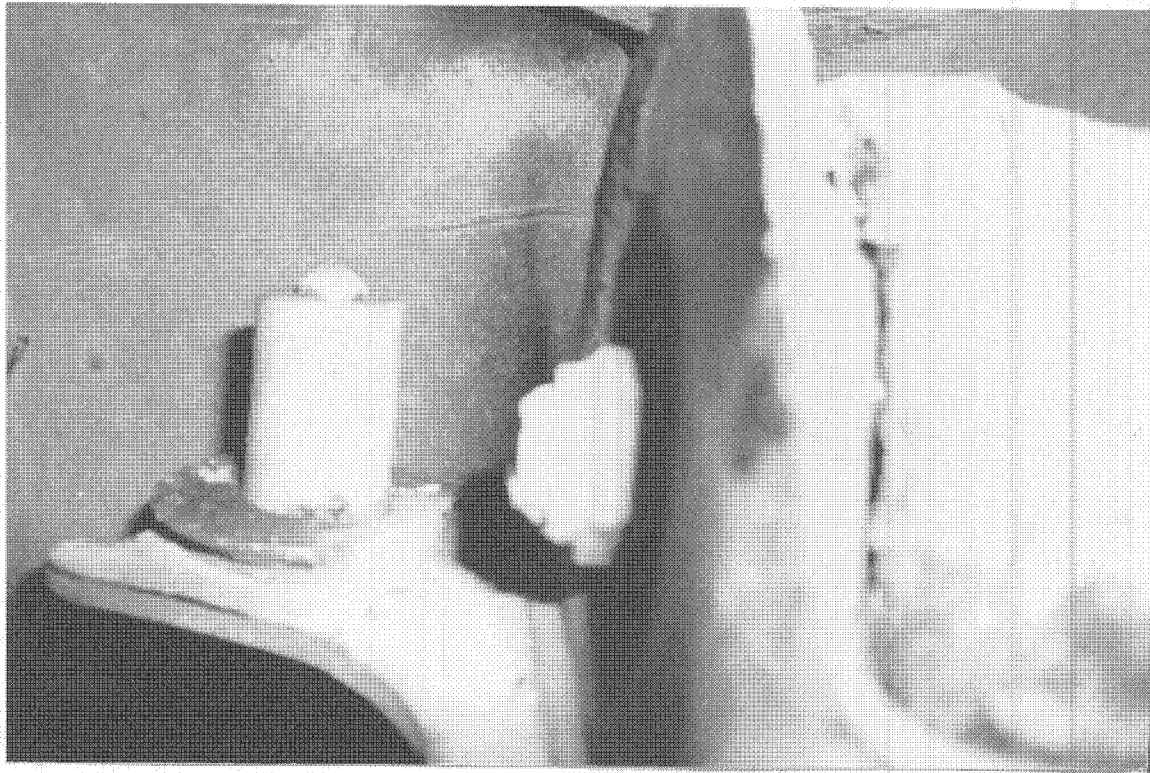
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Enc: Photographs





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