

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	
U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 14 JAN 2009				Date Received	Repository ☐
				14-JAN-2009	Reference No. 10255034
OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)					
Name				Daytime Telephone Number	E-mail Address
Address					
City	State	Zip Code		Evening Telephone Number	
SUGAR LAND	TX				
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 WBADT63401C			Make BMW	Model 530I	Model year 2001
Date Purchased	Dealer's Name and Telephone Number Momentum BMW 713-596-3270			Engine: No: Cylinders	Fuel Type:
Original Owner ☒	Dealer's City Houston	State TX	Zip Code	6	Premium
Transmission Type Automatic	☒ Antilock Brakes ☐ Cruise Control	Powertrain	Multiple Failure:		Incident Date(s) 19-DEC-2007
FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION					
Vehicle Component Code: 060000 ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING			Failure Mileage 55,319	Failure Speed 20	
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: DOTM9ABC036)		☐ 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 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). TL*THE CONTACT OWNS A 2001 BMW 530I. THE CONTACT HAS EXPERIENCED CONTINUOUS FAILURES WITH THE RADIATOR SINCE THE VEHICLE WAS PURCHASED. WHILE DRIVING 25 MPH, THE TOP HOUSING OF THE RADIATOR DETACHED AND CAUSED THE ENGINE TO FAIL. THE CONTACT NOTICED SMOKE UNDER THE HOOD. UPON OPENING THE HOOD, WATER BEGAN SPRAYING FROM THE RADIATOR. THE VEHICLE WAS TOWED TO THE DEALER AND THEY DETERMINED THAT THE SYSTEM OVERHEATED. THE VEHICLE WAS NOT DESIGNED WITH A PRESSURE RELEASE CAP, WHICH CAUSED THE RADIATOR TO EXPLODE. THE VEHICLE WAS REPAIRED AT THE COST OF \$1,500. TWO YEARS LATER, WHILE DRIVING 20 MPH, THE RADIATOR FAILED AND EXPLODED. THE VEHICLE OVERHEATED AND WAS TOWED TO THE DEALER. THE CONTACT WAS INFORMED THAT THE PLASTIC ON THE OVERFLOW TANK DETACHED AND CAUSED THE VEHICLE TO OVERHEAT. THE VEHICLE WAS REPAIRED AT THE COST OF \$400. THE MANUFACTURER STATED THAT THE RADIATOR WAS DESIGNED CORRECTLY. THEREFORE, NO COMPENSATION WOULD BE PROVIDED. THE FAILURE MILEAGE WAS 55,319 AND CURRENT MILEAGE WAS 64,699.					
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)

It appears that the BMW 530i 2001 Model does not have a pressure release system for the radiator. Twice in the last 2 years, the radiator released pressure by blowing apart the plastic parts of the radiator system, once on the top of the radiator and once on the bottom of the radiator. This is a very dangerous condition. Had I lifted the hood to investigate the engine stall, I would have been badly burned by the boiling liquid and subject to injury from the exploding plastic parts. I was told that the newer models corrected this problem.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, D.C. 20077-9382

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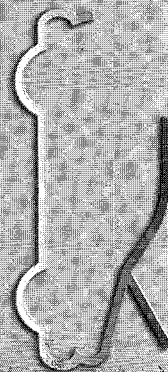
WASHINGTON, DC

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

**US Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation, NVS-210
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, D.C. 20077-9382**

**NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES**

**Think your vehicle
has a safety defect?**



If so:

**Use the enclosed
form to file a report.**

or visit:

www.safercar.gov

or call:

**Vehicle Safety Hotline
888-327-4236**



Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire (VOQ)
U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

