

# INFORMATION Redacted PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(B)(6)

This is a copy of your Report to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission submitted on 11/6/2011

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| Incident Details | VQ-10461616-6521 |
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Document Number: I11B0131A

Report Number: 20111106-0EA56-2147473580

Report Submitted Date: 11/6/2011

Who You Are: Consumer

Incident Description: I am writing on behalf of the issue concerning the safety and reliability of Mitsubishi and Dodge vehicles and their owners that contain the Mitsubishi F4A51 Automatic Transmission (2004 Diamante, 2000-2005 V6 Eclipse, 2001-2005 V6 Stratus RT, 1997-2003 V6 Galant)

The main issue seems to be a manufacturing defect in the wave/cushion spring located in the transmission. Mitsubishi has designed the wave spring as a fragile two coil piece which has been known to repeatedly break causing catastrophic failure in the transmission. This in turn poses a threat on the driver and passengers. When this wave spring breaks, actual pieces of the wave spring make it through Mitsubishi's also faulty transmission filter and lodge themselves in the pump gear, causing the gear to actually break. After the pump gear has been broken inside the transmission, all forward and reverse gears immediately stop function and in most instances the vehicle shuts off. This could result in potential harm or even death of the driver and/or passenger as the vehicle loses all moving power which can cause an accident with other vehicles on the road. Mitsubishi has recently created an updated version of the wave spring without issuing a recall, which now is a one piece instead of the coil setup and has a less chance of breaking. To many Mitsubishi/Dodge owners this update was discovered after they have had their vehicle in a transmission shop with a hefty bill to pay even though it was Mitsubishi's fault for engineering a faulty part in their transmission. All one person would need to find out about this issue is search the internet with the transmission code (F4A51) and this issue is well documented, even researched by Transmission Digest (a specialty magazine). Not only is this a large inconvenience to most, it is also a hazard to one's life. Mitsubishi should recall all vehicles which contain the F4A51 automatic transmission to perform the wave spring and filter update or reimburse those who have already had it done at their cost.

Incident Date: 10/28/2011

Incident Location: Street or Highway - Cedar Cone , Henrico , Virginia [REDACTED] , United States

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| Product Details |
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Product Description: F4A51 Automatic Transmission is the transmission inside my Mitsubishi Diamante 2004 that got broken and had to be completely replaced. the car has only 50,000 miles.

Product Category: F4A51 Automatic Transmission (2000-2005 V6 Eclipse, 2001-2005 V6 Stratus RT, 1997-2003 V6 Galant)

Product Type:

Brand Name: F4A51 Automatic Transmission

Manufacturer /

Importer /

Private Labeler

Name:

Model Name or

Number:

Serial Number:

Date 1/3/2004

Manufactured:

Manufacturer

Date Code:

**CPSC does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the contents of the Publicly Available Consumer Product Safety Information Database on SaferProducts.gov, particularly with respect to information submitted by people outside of CPSC.**

Manufacturer Not specified

Address:

Manufacturer

Website URL:

Manufacturer

Phone Number:

Retailer: Mid-Island Hyundai

Retailer State: Long Island

#### Additional Details

Purchase Date: 10/5/2010 This date is an estimate

I still have the product in my possession. Yes

The product was damaged before the incident. No

The product was modified before the incident. No

Have you contacted the manufacturer? Yes

If not, do you plan to contact them? N/A

Explanation: they did not assume responsibility

#### Your Contact Information

First Name: [REDACTED]

Last Name: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED], Henrico, Virginia, [REDACTED] United States

E-mail [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

#### Consent

May we include your Report, including any documents or photographs that you have attached to your Report, but without your name and contact information, in Yes, you may include my Report with any attachments on SaferProducts.gov.

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CPSC's Public  
Database?

May we release your name and contact information to the product manufacturer / importer / private labeler identified in your Report? Yes, you may release my name and contact information to the product manufacturer / importer / private labeler.

I certify that I have reviewed the Report and that the information provided in this Report is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. Yes

OMB Control Number 3041-0146