



# ODI RESUME

U.S. Department  
of Transportation

National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration

INVESTIGATION: RQ99-004  
SUBJECT: Rear Liftgate Support Failure  
PROMPTED BY: 97V-079, IE99-023  
PRINCIPAL ENGINEER: John Ridgley

DATE OPENED: 4/19/99  
DATE CLOSED:

MANUFACTURER: DaimlerChrysler Corporation  
MODEL(S): Caravan, Grand Caravan, Voyager, Grand Voyager, Town & Country

MODEL YEAR(S): 1991 and 1993  
VEHICLE POPULATION: 835,000

PROBLEM DESCRIPTION: The liftgate support attaching bolts may break. This could result in the liftgate falling unexpectedly which may injure someone standing under it.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	MANUFACTURER	TOTAL
COMPLAINTS:	65	Unknown	
CRASHES:	0	"	
INJ CRASHES:	0	"	
# INJURIES:	16	"	
FAT CRASHES:	0	"	
# FATALS:	0	"	
OTHER:	0	"	

## DESCRIPTION OF OTHER:

ACTION: Close RQ99-004; safety recall 99V-213.

ENGINEER: \_\_\_\_\_ DIV CHF: \_\_\_\_\_ OFC DIR: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

*RQ99.004 close*

SUMMARY: On May 7, 1997, Chrysler Corporation filed a Defect Information Report to recall 436,000 1992 Dodge Caravan/Grand Caravan, Plymouth Voyager/Grand Voyager and Chrysler Town & Country vehicles to repair the liftgate supports; safety recall 97V-079. ODI had investigated the rear liftgate support problem for 1991-1993 Chrysler minivans in PE96-035 and EA96-027. At the time of closing EA96-027 on May 16, 1997, a safety related defect trend had not been identified on the 1991 and 1993 models.

Since the closing of EA96-027, ODI had received 34 complaints of rear liftgate support attaching bolt failures, including ten injuries, on the subject vehicles. A Recall Query was opened to determine the scope of liftgate support failures on the subject vehicles. An Information Request was sent to DaimlerChrysler on April 22, 1999. On July 19, 1999, DaimlerChrysler agreed to recall 1991, 1993, and 1994 model year vehicles to remedy rear liftgate supports; safety recall 99V-213. It is recommended that RQ99-004 be closed.