

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 02-027 Prompted By: PE01-043

Date Opened: 09/10/2002 Date Closed: 04/15/2004

Principal Investigator: Ali Motamedamin

Subject: Engine Stalling

Manufacturer: Ford Motor Company, Mazda North American Operations Products: Model Year 2001-02 Ford Escape/Mazda Tribute (V6 Engine)

Population: 391,487

Problem Description: Allege that the engine stalls without warning while driving.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	668	5800	6468
Crashes/Fires:	15	21	36
Injury Incidents:	2	2	4
#Injuries:	(3	3	5 6
Fatality Incidents:	(0	0	0
#Fatalities:	1 0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

*Description of Other:

Action: This Engineering Analysis (EA) is closed. Ford will conduct safety recall (NHTSA #04V-165). Mazda will conduct safety recall (NHTSA #04V-175).

 Engineer:
 Ali Motamedamin
 A.M.
 Date:
 04/15/2004

 Div. Chief:
 Thomas Z. Cooper
 Date:
 04/15/2004

 Office Dir.:
 Kathleen C. DeMeter
 Date:
 04/15/2004

Summary: Ford's and Mazda's letters to NHTSA dated April 5 and April 9, 2004, state that they will recall model year 2001-03 Ford Escape and Mazda Tribute vehicles with the V6 engine built thru September 11, 2002. Dealers will adjust engine calibration in the programmable control module (PCM), which in its current setting, can cause the engine to shut down if the vehicle is decelerating at speeds below 40 mph. The engine shuts down due to "excessively rich air-fuel mixtures being sent to the engine." When the engine shuts down, drivers may notice a loss of power assist for their steering and brakes. The majority of the complainants have indicated to the agency that the stall is intermittent and can happen more than once.

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