

EA02-025

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS, INC.'S

9/10/03

REQUEST NO. 7

BOX 10

PART A - I

PART C

3 OF 3

1 A. I think what Steve's doing here is he,
2 he's testing both passenger car and light
3 truck parts.

4 Q. All right.

5 A. He's seeing passenger car parts start to
6 leak where light truck parts are not. So
7 he's looking at all of the differences
8 between those two parts, comparing them,
9 to see if any of those differences can
10 give him a clue in terms of what might be
11 happening on the passenger car parts.

12 Q. Okay. Then the next thing he lists is,
13 "extraordinarily tight sensor crimp --
14 crimp, as evidenced by the deformations
15 where the Kapton layers overlap." Can
16 you decipher that for us and, and what it
17 means?

18 MR. CARTER: Object to form.

19 A. By extraordinarily tight sensor crimp,
20 Steve's offering a hypothesis that maybe
21 the parts were crimped to too high a
22 pressure.

23 Q. And, and then made deformations where the
24 Kapton layers overlap?

- 1 MR. CARTER: Object to form.
- 2 Q. Right? Based on what Steve wrote?
- 3 A. In Highlights, he saying that there were
4 deformations where the Kapton layers
5 overlap.
- 6 Q. Yeah.
- 7 A. That's what he wrote in the Highlights.
- 8 Q. Okay. And he says that the -- he says,
9 "very flat washers (unlike the norm,
10 which is slightly cup-shaped) which may
11 also contribute to the tight crimp." Is
12 he talking about there the washer that's
13 indicated on the drawing as washer?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Pretty much of a flat surface --
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. -- thing? It sounds like that washer
18 isn't entirely flat, based on what Steve
19 is saying?
- 20 A. There is a tolerance on the flatness of
21 the washer.
- 22 Q. He's saying that they're usually slightly
23 cup-shaped. Is that -- is he saying that
24 that cup shape in the washer is -- will

- 1 accommodate some of the thickness of the
2 Kapton when the part is crimped together?
- 3 A. No. I think he's just saying it's
4 typically slightly cup-shape.
- 5 Q. Okay. For no reason?
- 6 A. I would imagine that's the case, because
7 of the way the part is stamped.
- 8 Q. All right. Would that allow or
9 accommodate for more clearance for the
10 Kapton to fit in that space?
- 11 MR. CARTER: Object to form.
- 12 A. I don't know. It depends which way the,
13 the cup is -- depends which way the cup
14 might be --
- 15 Q. Cupped?
- 16 A. Cupped, yeah. And --
- 17 Q. If it's cupped away from the space where
18 the Kapton is, then it will provide more
19 space for the Kapton, right?
- 20 A. In that one area, potentially.
- 21 Q. Yeah. All right. Well, let's just skip
22 ahead a little bit further. Okay. Let's
23 go up to August the 23rd, '91. We're
24 looking at some more validation here

- 1 having to do with light truck 77PS
2 devices. And then it says, the next
3 paragraph, "The AMI-built passenger car
4 devices on the same tests were aborted at
5 389K cycles, with 8 of 12 failed due to
6 ruptured Kapton." Now this is during the
7 development step -- stage, right?
- 8 A. This is during final production
9 validation testing.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 A. But before production.
- 12 Q. Okay. So switch has been developed and,
13 as far as TI was concerned, the
14 dimensions for the internal components of
15 the switch had been established?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And now TI is attempting to run some
18 tests -- maybe Ford tests, or are they
19 are exclusively Ford tests, or, or some
20 test -- TI test?
- 21 A. At a minimum it would include all Ford,
22 Ford's tests.
- 23 Q. Okay.
- 24 A. There may be some other TI tests as well.

1 Q. All right. And, and there's some
2 problems with the validation test because
3 there's some switches that have ruptured
4 Kapton, right?

5 MR. CARTER: Object to form.

6 A. There were some switches on the passenger
7 car test that did not meet the cycle life

8 --

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. -- specification.

11 Q. Well, Steve says that the test was
12 aborted because eight of the -- eight of
13 twelve failed due to ruptured Kapton.

14 That means they failed the test, right?
15 Eight of twelve?

16 A. Eight of twelve parts were leaking before
17 the five hundred thousand cycles, not
18 meeting the specification.

19 Q. Okay. And he talks about what he
20 believes may have caused these failures,
21 right?

22 A. He talks about one potential hypothesis.

23 Q. All right. What is that?

24 A. That the passenger car converters travel

- 1 further than the standard design.
- 2 Q. Okay. Would -- did that end up being a
3 problem with the Kapton failures on this
4 test, this validation test that's on TI
5 Bates stamp 4322?
- 6 A. No, it was not.
- 7 Q. What, what ended up being the problem
8 with these switches that would not pass
9 the cycling required by Ford?
- 10 A. The problem was isolated to the crimper
11 on the AMI machine.
- 12 Q. Okay. And the, the switches that Steve
13 tested came off the AMI achine -- AMI
14 machine, right?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. They were produced by the fully automated
17 process?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay.
- 20 (Discussion off the record.)
- 21 Q. Okay. Okay. Let's jump to the next
22 week, August the 29th, '91. It's talking
23 more about validation, and it sounds like
24 Steve is writing here about efforts which

1 are attempting to find out the cause of
2 early Kapton failures in passenger car
3 devices, right?

4 A. I think Steve is working to try and
5 understand why the -- those parts built
6 for the passenger car devices did not
7 meet the cycle life specification.

8 Q. Do you know when it was that he came to a
9 resolution or learned enough information
10 to find out what was wrong with the AMI
11 line to produce these failures?

12 A. Essentially, we knew that the -- that
13 57PS parts were meeting the
14 specification, the cycle life
15 specification. So we looked at the
16 differences between the 57PS and the 77PS
17 parts, and one of the key differences was
18 the crimper. So we went and built parts
19 completely on the AMI except for crimped
20 on the 57PS line, the hand line --

21 Q. Yeah.

22 A. -- to see how those parts performed. And
23 those parts met specification.

24 Q. Okay. So that happened when?

- 1 A. That happened in the September time
2 frame.
- 3 Q. All right. Let's go to September, and
4 let's try to find that. On September the
5 6th, '91, looks like there's a bunch of
6 testing done at five hundred thousand
7 cycles with a bunch of different
8 configurations, right?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And which one of those configurations was
11 used to make the 57PS crimp?
- 12 A. Anything that states hand line crimp
13 would be the 57PS crimp.
- 14 Q. Okay. For example, the first one on the
15 list, it says production cup, hand line
16 crimp with AMI pre-crimp?
- 17 (Discussion off the record.)
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. What is AMI pre-crimp?
- 20 A. On the AMI machine, after the device is
21 assembled with three points on the cup
22 are bent in to hold the device together
23 --
- 24 Q. Uh hum.

- 1 A. -- as it's transported to the crimper.
- 2 Q. To the hand crimper?
- 3 A. Even on to the automated crimper. On the
- 4 production -- on, on -- even if it
- 5 completely went through the automated
- 6 line, the pre-crimp brings the parts
- 7 together, holds them together as it --
- 8 and then it will go down the conveyor
- 9 belt to the dowel table that has the
- 10 crimper on it.
- 11 Q. All right. And that table is an
- 12 automated table? It does the crimping
- 13 automated at that point?
- 14 A. Yes, it's a dowel table that indexes from
- 15 station to station. It indexes to the
- 16 crimper where the, where the crimpers
- 17 mate.
- 18 Q. Okay. And so that was the end of the
- 19 problem? You just made -- Texas
- 20 Instruments just made the switches using,
- 21 using the 57PS crimping procedure?
- 22 MR. CARTER: Object to form.
- 23 A. What do you mean the end of the problem?
- 24 Q. The end of the problem having to do with

- 1 Kapton life and crimping?
- 2 A. TI presented the results to Ford that
- 3 parts built on the AMI but crimped on the
- 4 hand line would meet specification. Ford
- 5 approved production with that production
- 6 process and gave TI ninety days to
- 7 resolve any issues with the AMI crimp
- 8 machine.
- 9 Q. Okay. So during that ninety day period,
- 10 TI produced switches using that suggested
- 11 method, with the hand crimp, right?
- 12 A. Using the production process that include
- 13 crimping on the hand line that had
- 14 demonstrated that it passed the Ford ES
- 15 spec requirements.
- 16 Q. Between what date and what date did TI
- 17 produce switches using that method?
- 18 A. I don't know the exact dates. It would
- 19 have been the October or November launch
- 20 of production. And per Ford the -- we
- 21 stopped using that method in the February
- 22 time frame.
- 23 Q. You stopped using the --
- 24 A. The hand line crimped.

1 Q. Okay.

2 A. It went to the fully automated crimp.

3 Q. All right. And during all -- during that
4 period from around November or October,
5 when you first started -- when TI first
6 started selling passenger car pressure
7 switches, from then on it was selling
8 switches to, to Ford, and they were being
9 placed on passenger cars for sale, right?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Okay. Well, then let's go a little bit
12 further ahead in time. Before we do
13 that, I want to stop on September 20th,
14 '91. TI Bates stamp 4316. Under the,
15 under the second paragraph under
16 *VALIDATION*, talks about -- it says,
17 "Unfortunately problems occurred in both
18 the Car and Truck devices during the
19 testing. The ES states 'all devices must
20 pass.' Car is worse due to the
21 significant difficulties encountered with
22 Kapton life." And then it talks about
23 some conditional or approval. Then at
24 the bottom, the last paragraph that --

1 the last sentence of that paragraph, it
2 says we've had, "The difficulty we had
3 was salt spray failures where 4 out of 6
4 devices filled with salt solution, which
5 caused extremely high current leakage."
6 That, that salt solution that we talked
7 about a while ago, the salt spray
8 failures, that was the same kind of test
9 we talked earlier, right, salt spray?

10 A. Yes, that's --

11 Q. And that was a Ford --

12 A. -- salt spray, same type of test.

13 Q. That was a Ford imposed test, correct?

14 A. Ford specification requirement.

15 Q. Okay. And then it says, the last
16 sentence says, "However, careful scrutiny
17 of these devices showed the leak path was
18 via the mating connector, and we have
19 blamed the design of this connector on --
20 in the writeup." So TI blamed the design
21 of the connector for the leakage of the
22 salt water into the actual side of the
23 switch during the salt spray test?

24 A. Analysis of the part --

- 1 MR. BDRROW: Object to form.
- 2 A. Analysis of the parts after the salt
- 3 spray test showed that the salt water had
- 4 gotten into the parts through the mating
- 5 connector.
- 6 Q. Yes.
- 7 A. So when TI wrote the report, they stated
- 8 that fact, that the salt had entered the
- 9 part through the mating connector, which
- 10 is not a controlled -- a TI controlled
- 11 part. It's a Ford defined part.
- 12 Q. Right. The mating connector is a Ford
- 13 controlled part, right?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And TI has nothing to do with making a
- 16 good seal on that mating connector, or
- 17 not -- or even putting a seal on there,
- 18 right?
- 19 A. The mating connector is supplied to Ford
- 20 by another supplier. TI does not supply
- 21 the mating connector to Ford.
- 22 Q. All right. And it's not --
- 23 MR. MANSKE: Objection, non
- 24 responsive.

1 Q. It's not, it's not TI's responsibility to
2 supply a gasket on the mating connector,
3 right?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. Okay. Did TI report this failure, the
6 salt spray failures which occurred on
7 September the 20th, 1991, to Ford?

8 A. Yes, TI did.

9 Q. And was that done through this paper that
10 this sentence mentions? It says, "We
11 have blamed the design of this connector
12 in the writeup." Did, did Ford
13 communicate that in this writeup that's
14 mentioned here?

15 A. TI writes a validation test report for
16 the production validation testing.

17 Q. Uh hum.

18 A. And those results would have been
19 included in that validation test report.

20 Q. Okay. So TI would have mentioned this
21 salt spray failure in the writeup that's
22 mentioned here?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Okay. And that would have been given to

1 Ford?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And that would have been in a time period
4 before the switches, any switches, were
5 sold from TI to Ford to be put on
6 passenger car vehicles, right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Okay. Did any action ever occur after
9 this date to resolve this connector leak
10 problem?

11 A. The connector that was -- that is used on
12 the truck platform was changed at a later
13 date.

14 Q. What about the passenger car platform?

15 A. The passenger car platform had a slightly
16 different mating connector than the truck
17 platform.

18 Q. Is this talking about truck or car
19 platform?

20 A. This is talking about the truck platform.
21 The failures occurred in the truck test.

22 Q. Where does it say that?

23 (Discussion off the record.)

24 A. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven

- 1 -- seven lines down in the second
2 paragraph, Steve Offiler states --
- 3 Q. The sentence right before, "the
4 difficulty?"
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Okay. So the problems encountered with
7 truck are less severe, and it just talks
8 about -- okay, I see. At the same time,
9 you guys are dealing with this Kapton
10 failure problem and trying to figure out
11 what's going on with the crimper, right?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. What, what would happen if salt water
14 were allowed to leak into the internal
15 components of the electrical side of the
16 switch? Over time?
- 17 A. It would corrode the, the terminals in
18 the spring arm inside the switch. Could
19 result in the switch being non
20 functional.
- 21 Q. All right. Turn to the week ending
22 9/27/917 VALIDATION, passenger car.
23 First paragraph, about the second
24 sentence down, it says, "Apparently Mr.

1 Pease," I guess that's Bruce over there
2 at Ford, right?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. "Did not prepare Mr. Maeroff because a
5 deviation from procedure, using hand line
6 built parts without fluid resistance
7 testing to pass Impulse, has caused quite
8 a commotion." When, when Texas
9 Instruments wanted to go to this hand
10 line procedure to do the crimping, was
11 there going to be a test omitted?

12 A. We had a commitment on the date to Ford
13 to finish the testing. Because of that
14 time commitment, we were unable to do the
15 fluid resistance test on twelve parts
16 before the impulse test that were -- for
17 the parts that were built on -- were
18 crimped on the hand line.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. So the parts were not tested -- or the
21 twelve parts that went on impulse test
22 had not gone through the fluid resistance
23 test.

24 Q. All right. And that fluid resistance

1 testing was a Ford engineering
2 specification test?

3 A. Yes, it's a Ford requirement. And we
4 reported to Ford that we had run it that
5 way.

6 Q. And did, did the switches eventually get
7 produced and built and sold without being
8 run through a fluid resistance test?

9 MR. CARTER: Objection to
10 form.

11 A. Some parts had been run through the fluid
12 resistance test. Twelve out of the
13 twenty four parts that go through the
14 impulse test are supposed to go through
15 the fluid resistance test before the
16 impulse test. That piece of it was not
17 run initially. Ford approved the, the
18 qualification of the devices to be run on
19 the hand line, even though that piece of
20 the ES testing had not been done on those
21 parts. Ultimately, parts were run
22 through the full testing.

23 Q. You mean ultimately when?

24 A. I know that for the final PV testing off

1 the AMI, that was done in December.

2 Q. What, what, what's PV testing?

3 A. I'm sorry. Production validation
4 testing.

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. That was done in December of '91. The
7 parts went through the full ES test. I'm
8 not sure if any other parts between those
9 two points had gone through the fluid
10 resistance and then the impulse test.

11 Q. Okay. So -- but between October or
12 November time frame and this date in
13 December, there was some switches that
14 were built and sold and given to Ford and
15 put on vehicles which did not go through
16 the entire litany of tests that Ford
17 required TI to perform on the, on the
18 pressure switches?

19 MR. CARTER: Objection,
20 form.

21 A. The parts that were delivered in
22 production went through all the test
23 requirements Ford had defined for
24 switches that are built in production.

1 The production validation testing that
2 was completed in September that qualified
3 the use of the hand line for the crimping
4 process, twelve out of the twenty four
5 parts on impulse test did not go through
6 fluid resistance tests before the impulse
7 test. Ford approved that spec deviation.

8 Q. Okay. But the same deviation, did it
9 apply to all those switches that were
10 produced from that date in October to
11 December?

12 A. Not every switch produced would go
13 through that testing.

14 Q. Understand. But do -- TI would take out
15 certain amount of switches and every once
16 in a while, I'm going to do some testing,
17 right? There in production?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And did those tests -- did those switches
20 that were pulled out during production,
21 during that time period between October
22 and December, did those switches go
23 through the fluid resistance test?

24 A. During that time period of production,

1 any switches -- all the switches pulled
2 from production followed Ford
3 specification requirements. I don't
4 remember if Ford specification requires
5 production parts to be pulled out for
6 fluid resistance testing or not. If I
7 looked at the Ford specification, I could
8 answer that question better for you.

9 Q. When did the switches start being fluid
10 resistance tested?

11 MR. CARTER: Objection to
12 form.

13 A. I mean, parts had been fluid resistance
14 testing throughout the development of the
15 switch.

16 Q. Well, around this period in December or
17 January or November, when, when was it
18 that the production switches started,
19 started to be fluid resistance tested?

20 MR. CARTER: Objection to
21 form.

22 A. By September of '91, the parts had gone
23 through fluid resistance testing and
24 successfully passed that test. Even the

- 1 parts that went through the original
2 passenger car validation testing had
3 passed fluid resistance testing.
- 4 Q. But it says right here, and you just said
5 a while ago, that, that the switches that
6 are being produced or built on the hand
7 line are going to be done without fluid
8 resistance, resistance testing?
- 9 MR. CARTER: Objection,
10 form.
- 11 A. Can you refer to me where you're reading?
- 12 Q. Right here where it says, "apparently."
13 That sentence starting that?
- 14 A. The production validation testing defines
15 that twelve parts that go through impulse
16 testing should go through fluid
17 resistance testing first.
- 18 Q. Okay. Okay. After the, the part has
19 been validated, is there any --
- 20 A. No, this is -- I'm referring to during
21 the validation --
- 22 Q. I understand that. Let's say that passed
23 and everything, but then you're in
24 production. Would switches be -- what --

1 which switches have to go through the
2 fluid resistance test after the switch
3 has been validated?

4 A. I don't remember if the Ford
5 specification requires it.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. If, if it does, the testing would have
8 been done. If I could look at the Ford
9 specification, I could tell you.

10 Q. Right. Okay. So when, when was it that
11 the fluid resistance testing resumed in
12 order to, to validate the passenger car
13 switches?

14 MR. CARTER: Objection to
15 form.

16 A. Passenger car switches had already
17 successfully passed fluid resistance
18 testing.

19 Q. Okay. When did the fluid resistance
20 testing take place?

21 A. On the --

22 Q. For this -- after 9/27/91, because he's
23 asking for this to not happen in
24 September. And I just want to know when

1 it started to happen again, when did the
2 fluid resistance test -- testing resume?

3 MR. CARTER; Objection,
4 form.

5 A. TI asked for a deviation to allow the
6 production validation testing to include
7 impulse testing on twenty four parts that
8 had not been through any fluid resistance
9 testing rather than twelve parts that had
10 been through fluid resistance testing and
11 twelve parts that had not.

12 Q. Uh hum.

13 A. I'm not sure if there was any other fluid
14 resistance testing done immediately after
15 that time period. By December of, of
16 1991, I know fluid resistance testing was
17 run. I don't know if it was run any
18 earlier than that time frame.

19 Q. And that, that December fluid resistance
20 test was run on the hand crimp -- crimp
21 devices or the ANI automated produced
22 devices?

23 A. It was run on both.

24 Q. All right. And they all passed?

1 A. And they all passed.

2 Q. Okay. Let's go to the Highlights dated
3 October 25th, '91, TI Bates stamp 4310.
4 And the second paragraph of that -- it's
5 hard to read -- but the second, the
6 second sentence starts with, "Tear drops
7 were observed in most devices?"

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What -- that was mentioned a while back,
10 and I just -- if you can somehow describe
11 to us what this teardrop phenomenon is
12 that appeared on the Kapton?

13 A. The teardrop phenomena is the visual
14 shape of what the Kapton looked like of
15 viewing the top of the Kapton.
16 Essentially, the Kapton wets in here to
17 the washer and the converter.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. So it, it bends inward. And that goes
20 three hundred and sixty degrees around.
21 If this bending inward is not uniform
22 three hundred and sixty degrees around,
23 if there is one point where the Kapton
24 doesn't fully come into this area, if you

1 look visually on the top of the Kapton,
2 it looks kind of like a teardrop.

3 Q. Okay. Was the teardrop phenomenon blamed
4 in any way for this problem with the
5 Kapton failures?

6 MR. CARTER: Objection,
7 form.

8 A. The teardrop phenomenon was evaluated to
9 see if it had any influence on cycle
10 life.

11 Q. And did it? Did the teardrop phenomenon
12 have any, have any influence on the cycle
13 life?

14 A. No. Teardrop phenomenon does not
15 influence cycle life.

16 Q. And when was that determined by TI?

17 A. We've looked at -- we went and looked at
18 parts in 1999 and saw parts with tear
19 drops, without tear drops.

20 Q. In 1999?

21 A. In 1999. That had no difference in cycle
22 life performance between parts with tear
23 drops and without tear drops.

24 Q. So after a certain number of years, I

- 1 guess the switch was in service that you
2 looked at?
- 3 A. During this time frame, TI was never able
4 to prove whether the teardrop phenomenon
5 had any impact on cycle life or not.
- 6 Q. And it wasn't resolved? The issue was
7 not resolved about teardrop at that time?
- 8 A. Did not prove whether it had any impact
9 in cycle life or not.
- 10 Q. Okay. What did Texas Instruments finally
11 determine was wrong with the, the
12 crimping machine on the AMI line that was
13 causing the problems?
- 14 MR. CARTER: Objection,
15 form.
- 16 A. The crimp heads on the AMI machine were
17 realigned. The tubing and the hoses were
18 cleaned out. Essentially, the crimper
19 was, was, was re set up, refurbished, and
20 the crimp dies were moved from the hand
21 line to the, the AMI automated line. And
22 parts were manufactured using those crimp
23 dies.
- 24 Q. Uh hum. So I guess you just fixed up

1 the, the crimper? Texas Instruments
2 just, basically just fixed up that
3 crimper?

4 A. Well, we fixed the crimper --

5 MR. CARTER: Objection,
6 form.

7 A. -- we realigned the heads.

8 Q. Yeah.

9 A. And used the crimp dies from the hand
10 line.

11 Q. All right.

12 (Discussion off the record.)

13 Q. And was there something specific about
14 this die that was causing the problems?

15 A. I don't know.

16 Q. Didn't have some rounded off edges or
17 sharp edges, or something like that, that
18 were causing problems?

19 MR. CARTER: Objection,
20 form.

21 A. It's possible that -- I do know, not -- I
22 do not know what the differences were
23 between the two dies.

24 Q. And did TI look at the -- the, the

- 1 crimper is operated pneumatically?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Did -- and what --
- 4 A. Actually, I'm not -- it could be
- 5 hydraulically. I'm not sure if it's
- 6 pneumatically or hydraulically.
- 7 Q. All right. But at any rate, there's some
- 8 kind of a controller that goes to the
- 9 supply that actuates the crimper, right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And did TI look at that also?
- 12 A. TI looked at all aspects of the crimper.
- 13 Q. What is production drift?
- 14 A. Are you referring to somewhere in the
- 15 Highlights?
- 16 Q. No.
- 17 A. Okay. I'm not sure exactly what you
- 18 mean. Maybe that's referring to
- 19 actuation or release pressure drift.
- 20 Q. Of production parts? Production pressure
- 21 switches? If it says produc -- if, if
- 22 there's a term production drift, then
- 23 that would then indicate that it has to
- 24 do with production switches rather than

- 1 develop -- developmental switches or
2 switches that are pre-production?
- 3 A. I, I'm not sure.
- 4 Q. Okay. Turn to the week ending December
5 the 20th, '91? Now, at this point in
6 time, in December in 1991, Texas
7 Instruments has already resolved, or has
8 already found out the problem with the
9 crimper, right?
- 10 A. Well, before December 20th, 1991, TI's
11 been able to make parts pass using the
12 hand line --
- 13 Q. Uh hum.
- 14 A. -- crimper versus the automated crimper.
15 So that we had isolated the problem to
16 the automated crimper. By this point, we
17 were just completing the validation
18 testing, production validation testing --
- 19 Q. Uh hum.
- 20 A. -- on devices crimped off the AMI
21 crimper.
- 22 Q. Okay. So TI knew that the problem for
23 this Kapton life deal, or issue, was
24 related to the AMI crimper, right?

1 MR. CARTER: Objection,
2 form.

3 Q. The automated crimper?

4 MR. CARTER: Objection,
5 form.

6 A. TI understood that the, the original
7 issues found in the first passenger car
8 validation testing were related to the
9 automated crimper.

10 Q. Okay. Now, on this week, this is TI
11 Bates stamp 4299, the first paragraph is
12 entitled *DIAPHRAGM LIFE*, life, and it
13 looks like there is a test that's being
14 run here with control lot, square Kapton
15 and all round Kapton. What is that?

16 MR. CARTER: Objection,
17 form.

18 A. Control lot, square Kapton --

19 Q. Yeah.

20 A. -- would be the type of Kapton sheets
21 currently used in production. And round
22 Kapton would be just a different shape of
23 the Kapton diaphragm.

24 Q. All right.

- 1 A. Would be round instead of square.
- 2 Q. Do you know why this kind of test was
3 done, or who did this test that's
4 identified on TI Bates stamp number 4299?
- 5 A. When the initial problems occurred with
6 the impulse test, there were many avenues
7 that were being pursued. And this was
8 probably one of the avenues being
9 pursued.
- 10 Q. Okay. If you look at the -- what does
11 beta mean? It says beta equals 5.3 and
12 beta equals 9.2?
- 13 A. In Weibull analysis, beta refers to the
14 slope of the, the line, and theta refers
15 to the point on the line where sixty
16 three percent of the devices have failed
17 during the testing.
- 18 Q. What is a better result with regard to
19 beta, a high number or a low number?
- 20 A. A high number.
- 21 Q. So on this test, it looks like the round
22 Kapton lots had a higher beta, beta
23 number, right, than, than the control
24 square Kapton?

1 A. During this test, yes.

2 Q. Yeah. And then theta, the numbers?
3 Which, which of the numbers have the
4 better result?

5 MR. CARTER: Objection,
6 form.

7 A. A higher theta means whatever part you're
8 testing would have longer life.

9 Q. So the theta of the round Kaptons exceeds
10 the control lot square Kapton by one
11 thousand or so? About that, right?

12 A. In terms of theta. The difference
13 between the two thetas was about one
14 million, one thousand K.

15 Q. Okay. One -- okay. Is that significant,
16 those numbers? The differences in those
17 numbers of theta and beta of the two
18 different types of Kapton tested?

19 MR. CARTER: Objection,
20 form.

21 A. Significant is a statistical term. I'd
22 have to do a statistical test to confirm
23 that that is significant. But the bottom
24 line is, in terms of a specification of

- 1 five hundred thousand cycles, both sets
2 of parts a hundred percent met that
3 specification.
- 4 Q. All right. Did Texas Instruments
5 communicate this Kapton test it did with
6 square and round Kapton?
- 7 MR. CARTER: Objection,
8 form.
- 9 A. What, what do you mean, communicated the
10 test?
- 11 Q. Oh, communicate the results of it or the
12 procedures for the test or anything at
13 all having to do with this test?
- 14 MR. CARTER: Objection,
15 form.
- 16 Q. To Ford?
- 17 A. I don't know whether these results were
18 presented to Ford or not.
- 19 Q. Okay. Okay. Let's go to the next week
20 ending January 10th, 1992 --
- 21 MR. CARTER: When you get a
22 chance, Mike, I need to, I need to break.
- 23 MR. JOLLY: Okay.
- 24 MR. CARTER: All right?

1 THE WITNESS: I could use a
2 break too.

3 MR. JOLLY: Yeah, that's
4 fine.

5 MR. CARTER: Thanks.

6 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This is
7 the video reporter. The time is 2:04.
8 We are going off the record.

9 (Recess.)

10 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This is
11 the video reporter. The time is 2:16.
12 We are back on the record.

13 Q. Okay. Turn with me to the week ending
14 January the 10th, '92?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Is that where we were a while ago, I
17 think? Let's turn to the week, the week
18 after that, following that. 1/17/92,
19 Bates stamped 4297. There is a paragraph
20 entitled **DIAPERACK LIFE**, and it's in bold
21 print. It talks about the on-going
22 square versus round Kapton test, and it
23 says it has produced interesting results.
24 And it says something about the test

1 compares round and square cut Kapton. I
2 guess from the same sample sheet, right?
3 Why, why was this round versus square
4 Kapton test being conducted? Can you
5 tell us?

6 A. This specific test was being tested to
7 compare square verse round Kapton from
8 the same Kapton sheet, because the
9 initial testing that had shown different
10 performance between round and square
11 Kapton were from two different sheets,
12 and therefore two different lots of
13 material. And we wanted to see if the
14 difference was due to the different lots
15 of material or whether it was due to the
16 different shape of the Kapton.

17 Q. Okay. And did it matter about where the
18 material came from, or did it matter
19 about the shape of the material?

20 A. According to Steve here, he says that
21 this sheet of material seems to have
22 greater resistance to rupture.

23 Q. And which sheet of material is that? Is
24 that called the sample sheet?

- 1 A. That's called the sample sheet.
- 2 Q. And he compared that to production,
3 right?
- 4 A. In this test, he was comparing square
5 diaphragms and round diaphragms from the
6 same sample sheet material.
- 7 Q. Okay. And did the round do better, or
8 did the square do better when they came
9 from the same sample sheet?
- 10 A. According to Steve here, he doesn't have
11 those results yet.
- 12 Q. Okay. But he goes on to state in that
13 same paragraph -- well, I guess it's just
14 something he states, 'cause it was an
15 observation on his part. He says, "It
16 seems obvious that the sample material
17 has much greater resistance to rupture,
18 and it remains to be seen whether round
19 versus square makes a significant
20 difference in these parts. Upon
21 completion of this test, we should
22 involve Dupont to explain the material
23 differences, production versus sample
24 sheet, and possibly upgrade the

1 production material." What does he mean
2 by that? Does he mean that the sample
3 sheet material performs better than the
4 production material?

5 MR. CARTER: Objection to
6 form.

7 A. What I think Steve is saying is that
8 based on the earlier test, he saw the
9 sample sheet seemed to be performing
10 better, or material cut from the sample
11 sheet seemed to be performing better than
12 the production material. And, and felt
13 that once we had all the data, it would
14 be worthwhile sharing our results with
15 Dupont to see if they had any
16 suggestions.

17 Q. Do you know if TI ever did share the re
18 -- the results of these tests with Dupont
19 to give Dupont a opportunity to explain
20 the material differences?

21 A. I don't know.

22 Q. Have you ever seen any information from
23 Dupont which may explain the differences
24 between the production versus the sample

1 sheet --

2 MS. WEINER: Objection to
3 form.

4 Q. -- that was used in this test?

5 (Discussion off the record.)

6 A. I have not seen any material from Dupont
7 that discussed the results of, of this
8 test. And, and relating to the two
9 different sheets of material used. I'm
10 not sure even the -- if upon completion
11 of all the tests what the final
12 conclusions were.

13 Q. Okay. In the next paragraph, it talks
14 about a synopsis of develop --
15 developments in diaphragm life testing
16 were presented the week -- I guess it was
17 the week of this report?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Now, I, I guess, based on what that says,
20 is there's -- several engineers got
21 together and discussed the Kapton life
22 issues?

23 A. Yes. I would imagine that's what
24 occurred.

- 1 Q. And then some ideas were generated, and
2 it appears that some of those ideas may
3 be listed here. And these ideas are
4 ideas that come from -- I, I'm assuming
5 here, but you just let me know if this is
6 true or not -- these ideas come directly
7 from Texas Instruments engineers who were
8 involved in the developmental work with
9 these pressure switches?
- 10 A. I don't know who the engineers that got
11 together. I would expect them to be
12 Texas Instruments engineers.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- 14 A. I don't know if they all worked in the
15 pressure switch area or not.
- 16 Q. All right. But they were all -- probably
17 all Texas Instruments engineers, right?
- 18 A. I would expect that they would be, yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. The, the third sentence of that
20 paragraph, after it says, "several good
21 ideas were generated," says, "The general
22 attitude is that a more robust design is
23 required which is not sensitive to
24 production line variables such as crimp

1 tool geometries, crimp forces, etc."

2 What does that mean when, when Stephen
3 makes that statement, a, a more robust
4 design is required?

5 MR. CARTER: Objection,
6 form.

7 A. I think what's Steve's saying is if --
8 that if we were able to widen the
9 tolerances, for example, on crimp
10 pressures and different crimp parameters,
11 that would make the device more
12 manufacturable, easier to manufacture.

13 Q. Okay. That's fair enough. And this
14 symposium and, and, you know, it took
15 place the week of January the 17th, 1992,
16 and this was after the time period where
17 TI started to make pressure switches for
18 the passenger cars, the Panther platform
19 cars, on the automated line, right?

20 MR. CARTER: Objection,
21 form.

22 A. According to what Ford has told us, TI
23 did not switch to production on the fully
24 automated line until February of 1992.

1 Q. Okay. So TI's still making switches
2 using the hand crimp method?

3 A. At this point, in --

4 Q. At this point in time?

5 A. -- in January 17th.

6 Q. Yeah. And TI's also discussing amongst
7 itself, amongst its engineers, possible
8 problems and solutions to Kapton life?

9 MR. CARTER: Objection,
10 form.

11 A. The engineers are discussing
12 hypothetically different ways to modify
13 the design to improve diaphragm life.

14 Q. Yeah, like the first sentence says in
15 that paragraph, "Developments in
16 diaphragm life testing," what Steve
17 wrote? Do you agree with that?
18 Developments in diaphragm life testing?

19 A. I'm sure Steve --

20 MR. CARTER: Objection to
21 form.

22 A. -- Steve presented to the group the
23 results of the testing that had been
24 done.

1 Q. Okay. And then if you look inside that
2 paragraph, it says, "We will proceed,"
3 and I, I assume he means Texas
4 Instruments, "will proceed" -- is that
5 right, when he says we?

6 A. Yes.

7 MR. CARTER: Object to form.

8 Q. "Will, will proceed with testing and
9 developmental work, including the
10 following experimentation: reduce/limit
11 Kapton clamping by machining a step on
12 the outer portion of the hexport flange
13 to provide metal to metal contact to
14 washer and using a smaller -- a small
15 diameter round diaphragm." Explain to us
16 what that suggestion is on this diagram,
17 which is marked as Exhibit Number 2?

18 A. Would be machining a step into the, the
19 hexport, similar to the step where the
20 elastomer sits.

21 Q. Okay. Draw a --

22 A. Right here.

23 Q. -- and exemplary line -- just a line
24 which would exemplify where that step

- 1 would be placed on the -- where was that
2 step going to be?
- 3 A. In the hexport --
- 4 Q. Outer portion of the hexport flange?
- 5 A. It would be in here, for example. I have
6 not drawn it to scale. It would be a
7 much thinner step than that.
- 8 Q. Okay. Draw a line out from where you
9 drew that, over here in a clear area,
10 where we can -- you can label that
11 hexport flange step. Okay. So this
12 suggestion would do what? How, how can
13 this solve any problems having to do with
14 Kapton failure, or, or life?
- 15 MR. CARTER: Objection,
16 form.
- 17 A. We, we were looking at ideas to see if
18 there was any way to improve the cycle
19 life of a product.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. And this idea would take the Kapton out
22 of the crimp stack up.
- 23 Q. All right. So it would provide a location
24 for the Kapton to go into, rather than

1 being crimped or crushed by the, the
2 hexport flange, right?

3 MR. CARTER: Objection,
4 form.

5 A. It would hold a place for the Kapton to
6 sit where the Kapton would not be part of
7 the crimp stack up.

8 Q. And another part of this fix would be to,
9 as he said in, in his suggestion here,
10 use a smaller diameter -- a small
11 diameter round diaphragm, right?

12 A. We would have to --

13 MR. CARTER: Objection,
14 form.

15 A. -- use a smaller diameter Kapton part in
16 that configuration so that it would not
17 be clamped between the metal of the
18 hexport and the metal of the washer.

19 Q. Right. And also it says round diaphragm
20 rather than square, correct? Steve?

21 A. Yes, he says round in the Highlights,
22 yes.

23 Q. Okay. And then there's a semicolon, and
24 then there's a new suggestion, another

- 1 suggestion. "Try full rounded diaphragms
2 with only two layers." Why would he
3 suggest that, that arrangement?
- 4 A. My assumption would be because full round
5 diaphragms do not meet the DRIF
6 specification requirement. So he was
7 going to try two layers to see if you
8 would get better wetting of that -- of
9 the Kapton to the converter and, and the
10 washer with only two layers.
- 11 Q. So three layers would not meet DRIF
12 specifications?
- 13 A. With round Kapton.
- 14 Q. With round Kapton, but two layers might?
- 15 A. It's possible.
- 16 Q. Okay. And it's just a suggestion, right?
- 17 A. These are just ideas that the team came
18 up with to go evaluate and see how they
19 perform.
- 20 Q. All right. And then the next suggestion
21 is try Kapton without Teflon. Would that
22 work, as far as you know?
- 23 A. No, I would not expect that to work.
- 24 Q. Why not?

1 A. 'Cause the Teflon coating is needed to
2 protect the Kapton from any water in the
3 brake fluid.

4 Q. What's wrong with water in the brake
5 fluid and Kapton?

6 MR. CARTER: Objection to
7 form.

8 A. Water can degrade the strength of Kapton
9 in the right conditions.

10 Q. And Teflon's needed there to protect the
11 Kapton, right?

12 A. The Teflon prevents the water from being
13 in contact with the Kapton.

14 Q. And which would slow down any degradation
15 that the water would cause on the Kapton,
16 right?

17 A. Well, it would be a barrier that would
18 prevent contact, so there wouldn't be
19 degradation of --

20 Q. Wouldn't be any degradation?

21 A. -- of the water to the Kapton.

22 Q. As long as you have Teflon there, that
23 has a barrier between water and Kapton,
24 and you're not going to have any

- 1 degradation of the Kapton?
- 2 A. Due to the -- you would not have any
- 3 degradation due to the water.
- 4 Q. Due to the water contact?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. Okay. Now, the next suggestion is,
- 7 "Addition of a bump, male feature on the
- 8 hexport with corresponding female in the
- 9 washer in order to stretch the Kapton
- 10 during assembly." What is he talking
- 11 about there?
- 12 MR. CARTER: Objection,
- 13 form.
- 14 Q. Can you indicate that on the diagram,
- 15 which is on Exhibit Number 2?
- 16 MS. SPEER: Mike, rather
- 17 than every party objecting, may we have
- 18 an agreement prospective that --
- 19 MR. JOLLY: Yeah.
- 20 MS. SPEER: -- that every
- 21 objection applies --
- 22 MR. JOLLY: To everybody,
- 23 yeah, that's fine.
- 24 MS. SPEER: Thank you.

1 A. I'm not sure exactly what Steve Offiler
2 means by this approach, saying a bump on
3 the hexport and, and it must mean kind of
4 a hole on the, on the washer side, I
5 assume where the hexport meets the
6 washer, which would be in this
7 configuration. But I'm not sure what he
8 means by, by that.

9 Q. A male and female part that mate up?
10 Sounds pretty complicated, doesn't it?

11 MR. CARTER: Object to the

12 --

13 A. I'm not sure exactly what he means.

14 MR. CARTER: Object to the
15 side bar.

16 Q. That was a question, not a side bar.

17 MR. CARTER: Well, then I'll
18 object to the form.

19 Q. Then the next one is, "The use of
20 pre-bent concave hexports to see if this
21 eliminates the tendency of the diaphragm
22 to move radially inward, which is thought
23 to happen as the hexport and washer bend
24 to crimp." What is a concave hexport?

- 1 Where is the concave area he's talking
2 about on the hexport?
- 3 A. This is what he's talking about out here
4 in the hexport.
- 5 Q. Sort of concave in in this direction like
6 this? Inwardly? Or what, what do you
7 think he means?
- 8 A. Probably inwardly, so as to -- washer has
9 -- when we talked before about the washer
10 bending, to compensate for that --
11 difference.
- 12 Q. Yeah. All right. Do you know if any of
13 his suggestions were ever tested or
14 utilized by Texas Instruments in any of,
15 any of the pressure switches it makes?
- 16 A. Texas Instruments makes pressure switches
17 today with Kapton without Teflon.
- 18 Q. For use in brake systems?
- 19 A. No, not for use in brake systems, for use
20 in transmission systems and some power
21 steering. Ah --
- 22 Q. How about, how about press -- and go
23 ahead, I'm sorry. I interrupted you.
- 24 A. I don't believe any of the other ones are

- 1 in production today.
- 2 Q. Any of the other what?
- 3 A. Any of the other items on this list
- 4 included in Steve Offiler's Highlights.
- 5 Q. What things -- what items on this list
- 6 were put into production at all, ever, if
- 7 you know?
- 8 A. We do have pressure switches that use
- 9 Kapton without Teflon in production. We
- 10 do have pressure switches that use round
- 11 diaphragms in production.
- 12 Q. And those pressure switches that use
- 13 round diaphragms, are they for brake
- 14 fluid?
- 15 A. No, they are not.
- 16 Q. What are they for?
- 17 A. Transmission switches and pump mount
- 18 power steering switches.
- 19 Q. But none of them -- do the -- do those
- 20 types of switch, do they have two or one
- 21 Kapton diaphragms?
- 22 A. Transmission switches have one layer.
- 23 Q. Uh huh.
- 24 A. I'm not sure if the power steering pump

1 mount pressure switches have one layer or
2 two layers.

3 Q. And were those switches designed with
4 those round Kapton diaphragms after this
5 synopsis?

6 A. The transmission switches were designed
7 with, with the round Kapton before this
8 synopsis. The pump mount power steering
9 pressure switches with Kapton were
10 designed after.

11 Q. Did Texas Instruments ever point out or
12 communicate these tests to Ford? The
13 tests that are -- and the, and the
14 suggestions that are identified on the TI
15 document, Bates stamp number 4297?

16 A. I don't know if these specific tests were
17 communicated to Ford or not.

18 Q. These weren't the kind of things that
19 Ford required TI to do to validate any of
20 its switches, right?

21 A. Ford requires TI to continuously improve
22 the product. These would be examples of
23 things TI would do to continuously
24 improve the product. If TI found

1 something that they felt improved the
2 product, then they would bring that
3 information to Ford, and Ford would
4 decide whether or not they wanted to im
5 -- implement that change in the product.

6 Q. But you can't tell us if these
7 developments, this synopsis of
8 development of -- in diaphragm life
9 testing, if, if this information was ever
10 communicated to Ford around this time
11 period when it was created, back in
12 January the 17th, 1992?

13 A. The first statement of synopsis of
14 developments in diaphragm life testing, I
15 would guess, refers to all the work that
16 had been done to qualify the 77PSL2-1 for
17 Ford, and all of that information would
18 have been shared with Ford.

19 Q. Okay. So what you're telling us is that
20 all of these suggestions were
21 communicated to Ford? The suggestions
22 that are listed here by Stephen Offiler
23 back in January of '92?

24 MR. CARTER: Objection --

1 A. No.

2 MR. CARTER: Objection to
3 form.

4 A. That's not what I'm saying. I think --

5 Q. They were communicated to Ford before
6 that time?

7 A. No, I think you're misunderstanding what
8 Steve wrote here. I think what he's
9 saying happened was he brought a group of
10 engineers together, presented to them the
11 results of, of the production validation
12 testing of the 77PSL2-1 test, chose some
13 of the issues that were found with
14 diaphragm life in the original validation
15 testing, and the team brainstormed some
16 options of things to look at for
17 continuous improvement forward looking.

18 Q. Right.

19 A. The, the, the production validation
20 testing that had been done on the
21 77PSL2-1 would all have been communicated
22 to Ford.

23 Q. That had already been done, those
24 validation testings -- testing had

1 already been done?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Correct?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. The specifics of some of these ideas, I
7 don't know whether those were
8 communicated to Ford or not.

9 Q. All right. If they were communicated to
10 Ford, how would that have been done? By
11 a document or a report or something?

12 MR. CARTER: Object to the
13 form.

14 A. Talking hypothetically here, because I
15 don't know whether these were
16 communicated or not.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. Communication between TI and Ford was by
19 letter, was by phone, was by document.
20 There were various forms of
21 communication.

22 Q. Uh hum. Okay. Let's go -- okay. Let's
23 just go to January 24th, '92, just real
24 quickly. On the *DIAPHRAGM LEFT* -- *LIFE*

- 1 test regarding the round versus square
2 diaphragms, it looks like the test is
3 still on-going, right?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And it says that the round test parts are
6 again showing the best life, correct?
- 7 A. That's what the Highlights say, yes.
- 8 Q. And the square test parts, which were
9 taken from the same sample sheet of
10 material as the round, have five of six
11 dead. Isn't that what it says?
- 12 A. Yes, that's what the Highlights say.
- 13 Q. So it appears that, I mean, the test is
14 not complete yet, but it appears at this
15 point in time, in January 24, 1992, that
16 a round diaphragm has a substantially
17 longer life than a square diaphragm?
- 18 MR. CARTER: Objection,
19 form.
- 20 Q. Is that, is that correct or not?
- 21 A. I don't think you can conclude that from
22 the data presented --
- 23 Q. What, what else --
- 24 A. -- in this paragraph.

- 1 Q. -- what else would you need to, to
2 conclude that?
- 3 A. You would need to understand at how many
4 cycles the, the three failed of the round
5 test parts verse the five of the square
6 test parts.
- 7 Q. Okay. Let's go on, then, to, to the next
8 week of January 31st, '92, *DIAPHRAGM LIFE*
9 at the bottom. Says, "The most recent
10 test of square vs. round Kapton has been
11 completed. The round Kapton from the
12 sample sheet fared best, with" -- what's
13 R-E-L mean?
- 14 A. Reliability.
- 15 Q. Ninety nine point seven percent. Next is
16 square, ninety nine point five three.
17 And production square Kapton is ninety
18 five point seven six. Is the production
19 square Kapton the Kapton that TI uses to
20 put in the switches that are distributed
21 to the people who buy the Panther
22 platform vehicles?
- 23 A. The production square Kapton is the
24 Kapton that is put in the production

1 switches that are sold to Ford.

2 Q. Okay. And that was put in to production
3 switches that were sold to Ford up to
4 that time period, in January 31st, 1992,
5 correct?

6 A. The switches that were sold -- production
7 switches that were sold would have the
8 production square Kapton up to that time
9 period, January 31st, '92 and beyond that
10 time period.

11 Q. Okay. Let's take a break, 'cause she's
12 going to change the tape.

13 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This is
14 the video reporter. The time is 2:38.
15 We're at the end of tape number two. We
16 are going off the record to change tapes.

17 (Recess.)

18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This is
19 the video reporter. The time is 2:40.
20 We are back on the record. This is the
21 beginning of tape number three, the
22 continued deposition of [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED]
24 Q. Let's turn to the week ending February

- 1 the 28th, 1992. Under the paragraph
2 entitled *PRODUCTION ISSUES*, and this
3 paragraph talks about suspected high
4 temperature pin shift. What is that?
- 5 A. This would be shift of the actuation or
6 released pressure over temperature.
- 7 Q. Okay. And does this have to do with the
8 Panther platform pressure switches? Can
9 you tell?
- 10 A. It does not say.
- 11 Q. It doesn't, does it?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. So we really don't know what this has to
14 do with?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. It says, though, that the devices are
17 representative of regular production.
18 And so whatever they are, they're in
19 production, whatever these switches are,
20 right?
- 21 A. Whatever these switches are, yes. They
22 would be -- they're representative of
23 regular production.
- 24 Q. And in February of -- the end of February

- 1 of '92, were the Panther platform
2 pressure switches in production?
- 3 A. Can you repeat the question?
- 4 Q. In February 28th of 1992, were the
5 Panther platform pressure switches in
6 production?
- 7 A. The speed control deactivation from TI --
- 8 Q. Yes.
- 9 A. -- for the Panther platform was in
10 production in February of --
- 11 Q. Okay.
- 12 A. -- February of '92.
- 13 Q. And utilizing the fully, fully automated
14 line at that point?
- 15 A. Based on information Ford has provided to
16 us. And TI was in production using the
17 fully automated line sometime in February
18 of '92.
- 19 Q. You can't tell based on the records you
20 have when TI went to the fully automated
21 line for producing the Panther platform
22 switches?
- 23 A. Our records show when we qualified, when
24 we finished production validation testing

1 off the fully automated line, when we
2 sent in the request to Ford to approve us
3 on running on the fully automated line.

4 Q. And when was that?

5 A. We finished the validation testing in the
6 end of December of 1991. We sent in the
7 request, I think it was a day later, the
8 end of December of 1991.

9 Q. Okay. It, it was a couple of months.
10 before TI started actually making
11 switches with the automated line?

12 A. TI could not change that process until we
13 received Ford approval.

14 Q. Okay. So --

15 A. So Ford would have had to approve, and
16 then there would have been some inventory
17 residual --

18 Q. Residual from the hand crimp --

19 A. Right.

20 Q. -- method?

21 A. Before we would have converted over.

22 Q. Okay. But it was about a two month
23 period or so, give or take a little bit?

24 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. But it was before March of '92?
- 2 A. I believe so, yes.
- 3 Q. Do you remember if this high temperature
4 pin shift issue, identified on TI Bates
5 stamp document 4291, do you remember if
6 that had anything to do with the Panther
7 platform switches?
- 8 A. I do not know if it had anything to do
9 with the Panther platform switches or
10 not.
- 11 Q. And then there's some talk in here about
12 silent switches and --
- 13 A. Where, where are you referring to?
- 14 Q. Well, let me see here. Bates stamp
15 number 4289. That would be the week
16 ending -- I don't know. I don't have a
17 first page of that one. Bates stamp
18 number 4289. The last paragraph there,
19 regarding the silent switches. "Ford
20 notified field sales today that
21 noise/brake feel has been identified as a
22 problem" at St. Thomas? That's the plant
23 where they make Crown Vics and Grand
24 Marquise, right?

- 1 A. That's what Steve Offiler says here.
- 2 Q. So I guess this, this issue, the silent
3 switch issue, has to do with the pressure
4 switches for the Panther platform, right?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. It says, "an alert is being issued," and
7 -- did you ever see that alert issued by
8 Ford about the silence switches? Or
9 noisy switches? I don't know how they,
10 they were called.
- 11 A. No, I did not see any alert by Ford.
- 12 Q. Do you know anything about this silence
13 switch, or noisy switch, issued in the --
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. Tell us about it.
- 16 MR. CARTER: Objection to
17 form.
- 18 A. Tell, tell you about the silent switch
19 versus noise switch?
- 20 Q. Yeah. Tell us, just briefly, if you can,
21 what it was caused by and how, how TI
22 fixed the problem, if there was a
23 problem?
- 24 A. The switch, the 77PSL2-1, as it's

1 designed, as many of the TI pressure
2 switches are designed, when the disc
3 snaps, there's an audible snap. You can
4 hear the disc snap. As we got into
5 production with Ford and people started
6 hearing that snap, I think here was
7 occurring -- the assembly plant when they
8 would final test the vehicle, they'd step
9 on the brake and they were able to hear
10 the disc snap audibly. People were
11 concerned that maybe there was a problem.
12 So Ford requested to TI to change the
13 design of the switch so you could not
14 hear the snap of the disc. The noise in
15 the disc does not indicate that the part
16 was not meeting specification. There was
17 no specification on noise from Ford
18 during the initial development.

19 Q. Okay. Did it indicate to TI that there
20 was any out of spec components inside the
21 switch that may be causing the noisy
22 switch?

23 A. No, there was nothing wrong with the
24 switch that had a noise when snapped.

1 It's designed to have a hard snap, so you
2 would expect to have the noise.

3 Q. Right. But I think that somewhere in
4 here it talks about silent switches, or,
5 or quieter switches, or something?

6 A. Right. And those switches are designed
7 to be quiet.

8 Q. What, what had to be done differently
9 between the two switches?

10 A. The disc is changed so that it creeps.
11 Remember when we talked about --

12 Q. Yeah.

13 A. -- creep release?

14 Q. Uh huh.

15 A. It's changed so the discs creep through.
16 So when they finally go to their final
17 state, they're moving slowly, because
18 they're slowly creeping through the
19 change rather than a very fast change.

20 Q. Okay. I just wanted some explanation on
21 this one. On Bates stamp number 4280,
22 the week ending May 22, '92? PRODUCTION
23 DRIFT ISSUE. Explain for me what, what
24 this means about this lab-crimp versus --

- 1 or -- and production-crimp sensors?
- 2 A. It just states that parts that are
- 3 crimped in the design lab versus parts
- 4 that are crimped in production have a
- 5 different pressure deflection curve.
- 6 Q. Okay. Then on that same week ending May
- 7 22, 1992 under Bates stamp number -- TI
- 8 Bates stamp number 4278, we have an entry
- 9 for high temperature impulse testing for
- 10 light truck. It says, "We have completed
- 11 a first-pass Impulse test running devices
- 12 at 170C (ambient and fluid) with dismal
- 13 results. All 12 devices failed between
- 14 222K and 262K cycles, with a Weibull beta
- 15 of 26.4(!) and a theta of 2246K." What
- 16 does all that mean, this first-pass
- 17 impulse test?
- 18 A. Ford came to us and said they have an
- 19 application where they'd like to use a
- 20 pressure switch which is going to see one
- 21 hundred and seventy degree C temperature.
- 22 Q. What is that in Fahrenheit, about?
- 23 A. I'm not sure exactly.
- 24 Q. Okay. Is that the highest temperature

- 1 pressure switch that TI has ever had to
2 try to develop?
- 3 A. Yes. And to date, we don't -- we do not
4 have any pressure switches in production
5 that will work at those temperatures.
- 6 Q. Was this -- do you know if this was going
7 to be a, a brake pressure application --
8 a brake fluid application, or some other
9 fluid?
- 10 A. I think it was for a brake application.
- 11 Q. All right. So the tests that TI
12 performed, the first-pass impulse test,
13 you know what type of switch was used to
14 conduct this test by Texas Instruments?
- 15 A. It doesn't say here, but I would assume
16 it was the standard light truck 77PS part
17 that was in production.
- 18 Q. Okay.
- 19 A. And Ford had probably asked us can that
20 part survive the hundred and seventy C
21 application.
- 22 Q. All right. Then it says all twelve
23 devices failed between 222K and 262K.
24 What, what was it -- what did Ford want

- 1 the cycles to be for passing? Do you
2 know?
- 3 A. It doesn't, it doesn't say here, but I'm
4 assuming they wanted it to still pass the
5 five hundred thousand cycle
6 specification.
- 7 Q. Okay. And what is Weibull or Wiebull
8 beta of 26.4 indicate to you?
- 9 A. That's a, a, a reasonably high beta,
10 which indicates that all the devices fell
11 -- all devi -- all of the devices failed
12 very close to each other in terms of
13 cycle life.
- 14 Q. Okay. So -- I, I see. And then theta of
15 246, that's the average cycle life, or
16 what?
- 17 A. That is the cycle life, or the number of
18 cycles at sixty three percent of the
19 parts would have failed at.
- 20 Q. Oh, right. Okay. And then upon opening
21 the devices, Texas Instruments discovered
22 the Kapton was disintegrating, or leaving
23 a thin Teflon skin basically in tact. Do
24 you know if this Kapton that was used in

1 this test in these switches was square or
2 round?

3 A. I don't know. Doesn't say.

4 Q: If it were one -- just one of the light
5 truck pressure switches, it would
6 probably be the square version?

7 A. It would square version, then, yes.

8 Q. It would probably be the production
9 quality, or whatever, Kapton from Dupont?

10 A. The standard production Kapton from
11 Dupont.

12 Q. Yeah, the standard production. Then it
13 says, "This is shedding light on the old
14 diaphragm life issue. A chemical attack
15 now a primary suspect." What does --
16 what do you think that means, based on
17 what you know about this?

18 MR. CARTER: Object to form.

19 A. Are you referring to the sentence you
20 just read?

21 Q. Yeah.

22 A. I'm not sure what Steve meant by this
23 statement. I would expect the difference
24 in performance results would be due to

1 the temperature exposure.

2 Q. And he said, "with chemical attack now a
3 primary suspect." Why do you think he
4 would suspect chemical attack as being a
5 primary suspect in the Kapton failure?

6 MR. CARTER: Object to form.

7 A. Can you repeat the question?

8 Q. Why would you think Steve -- why do you
9 think Steve would believe that chemical
10 attack would be a primary suspect in
11 these Kapton failures?

12 A. I assume --

13 MR. CARTER: Object to form.

14 A. I assume 'cause Steve saw that Kapton was
15 disintegrating, using his words. But one
16 of the ways that it could be
17 disintegrating was based on chemical
18 attack.

19 Q. Uh hum.

20 A. So he's setting up hypotheses to try and
21 understand the results of the test.

22 Q. Okay. Did, as far as you know, did Texas
23 Instruments ever conduct any Kapton life
24 tests using old brake fluid? Between the

- 1 dates in '90, say 1990 anytime, up to
2 about 1993 or so?
- 3 A. The brake fluid we'll use in our testing
4 is brake fluid we have sitting in our, in
5 our test area.
- 6 Q. Is it new?
- 7 A. So that brake fluid will vary in age.
- 8 Q. So is it --
- 9 A. When we get the first drum, it's new, and
10 it will get older over time.
- 11 Q. Okay. So you buy a new drum and it sits
12 there, and you just draw out of it as you
13 need it?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Is it type one, two, three, five, seven,
16 or do you remember?
- 17 A. About three weight fluid.
- 18 Q. About three?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And that's the usual brake fluid utilized
21 by most car manufacturers?
- 22 A. Yes. And I believe it's specified in the
23 Ford spec to use type three brake fluid.
- 24 Q. Okay. Has TI ever conducted any Kapton

1 life tests utilizing brake fluid, old
2 brake fluid, which may be recycled from
3 old automobiles, or from automobiles?

4 A. I think we -- I do not think we've done
5 any pressure cycling testing with, with
6 old brake fluid from recycled
7 automobiles, but I'm not positive.

8 Q. Pressure cycling, you said?

9 A. Yeah, pressure cycling.

10 Q. Any kind of tests?

11 A. During --

12 Q. Utilizing brake fluid that's recycled
13 from vehicles, old brake fluid that's
14 recycled from vehicles?

15 A. During the investigation with Ford in
16 1999, we got brake fluid from some old
17 vehicles, and put those brake -- that
18 brake fluid into the switch to understand
19 the conductivity of that brake fluid and
20 what current might flow through the
21 switch in that condition.

22 Q. Did it, did it -- can it carry a current?

23 A. It carried roughly the same current that
24 new brake fluid carried.

1 Q. No difference?

2 A. Small differences. Both were on the
3 order of milliamps.

4 Q. So new brake fluid is conductive to
5 electricity?

6 A. It's conductive to an extent. And it has
7 a certain resistance. It doesn't have a
8 zero ohm resistance, but it doesn't have
9 an infinite resistance either.

10 Q. Okay. So TI, either on its own or
11 requested by any customer, had never
12 performed any Kapton life testing
13 utilizing brake fluid recycled from cars?
14 And I'm talking about a time period from
15 about 1990 to 1995?

16 MR. CARTER: Object to the
17 form.

18 A. I'm not aware of any testing that TI had
19 run using old brake fluid on pressure
20 cycling testing.

21 Q. Okay. The temperature that Ford
22 suggested on this test that's identified
23 on TI document Bates stamped 4278, the
24 temperature of one hundred and seventy C,

1 do you know why Ford requested such a
2 high temperature for testing a, a switch?
3 A pressure switch?

4 A. I do not know why Ford requested that
5 temperature.

6 Q. And did Ford ever convey to Texas
7 Instruments about this, about this test
8 we're talking about, where the switch was
9 going to be located within the vehicle?

10 A. Not that I'm aware of.

11 Q. After -- you know, I don't have any more
12 Highlights after June 19th, 1992. That's
13 all I got. Did you ever review any other
14 Highlights after this period, in more
15 recent, that may suggest or, or continue
16 on with this testing that had to do with
17 the high temperature impulse testing for
18 light truck that Ford requested for TI to
19 do?

20 A. I have read Highlights more recent than
21 the, the June of 1992. I don't remember
22 that much discussing around high
23 temperature impulse testing.

24 Q. All right. Well, did you ever hear or

1 read about what eventually became of this
2 test, or why it was run and what it was
3 used for and whether or not a switch ever
4 got developed that met these kind of
5 condition?

6 A. I know that TI never developed a switch
7 that met those kind of conditions. No
8 switches from Ford are specified for
9 those temperatures. I'm assuming Ford
10 dropped the request.

11 Q. Okay.

12 MR. JOLLY: Pass the
13 witness.

14 MR. THOMAS: No questions.

15 MR. MANSKE: Ford has no
16 questions.

17 MS. WEINER: Mr.
18 Beringhouse, I'm going to have some brief
19 questions for you.

20 (Discussion off the record.)

21 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This is
22 the video reporter. The time is 2:58.
23 We are going off the record.

24 (Recess.)

1 (Exhibit Number 4, Notice,
2 was marked and entered into evidence.)

3 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This is
4 the video reporter. The time is 3:01.
5 We are back on the record.

6 CROSS EXAMINATION.

7 BY MS. WEINER:

8 Q. [REDACTED] my name is Monique
9 Weiner. I represent Dupont in this
10 litigation. I'm going to have a very few
11 brief questions for you. You discussed
12 in response to some questions that Mr.
13 Jolly asked you that water could be
14 detrimental to Kapton. Was Texas
15 Instruments aware at the time it was
16 manufacturing the pressure switches for
17 the Ford Panther platform vehicles that
18 water was detrimental to Kapton?

19 A. I'm not exactly when Texas Instruments
20 was first aware that water could be
21 detrimental to Kapton.

22 Q. Were -- do you know if Texas Instruments
23 knew that water was detrimental to Kapton
24 before the pressure, pressure switches

- 1 went into production for Ford?
- 2 MR. CARTER: Object to the
- 3 form.
- 4 A. Which pressure switches are you referring
- 5 to?
- 6 Q. The pressure switches that were
- 7 eventually installed into the Panther --
- 8 Panther platform vehicles?
- 9 A.. Yes. I believe Texas Instruments was
- 10 aware that water could be detrimental to
- 11 Kapton before production of the 77PSL2-1
- 12 switch for the Panther Platforms.
- 13 Q. Okay. At any time during the development
- 14 and production of the pressure switches
- 15 that went into the Panther platform
- 16 vehicles, was the Kapton supplied by
- 17 Dupont to Texas Instruments ever found by
- 18 Texas Instruments not to meet Texas
- 19 Instruments' specifications?
- 20 A. Can you repeat the question?
- 21 Q. Sure. At any time during the development
- 22 or production of the pressure switches
- 23 that were installed in the Panther
- 24 platform vehicles, was the Kapton that

- 1 Dupont provided to Texas Instruments ever
2 found by Texas Instruments not to meet
3 its specifications?
- 4 A. I think there were some issues in terms
5 of how the Kapton may have been packaged.
- 6 Q. Okay.
- 7 A. Things like that. But essentially in the
8 performance of the Kapton, there's
9 nothing that I'm aware of.
- 10 Q. Okay. So in the actual performance of
11 the product itself, aside from packaging
12 issues, there were no concerns that Texas
13 Instruments had about the specifications
14 of Kapton?
- 15 A. None that I'm aware of.
- 16 Q. Okay. How did Texas Instruments come to
17 use Kapton in its pressure switches, in
18 general, not just in the Panther platform
19 vehicles?
- 20 A. I don't know how TI was first connected
21 with Dupont for using Kapton. I'm not
22 aware of the, the specific details.
- 23 Q. Okay. You weren't involved personally in
24 the relationship between Dupont and Texas

1 Instruments insofar as the selection of
2 Kapton for use in Texas Instruments'
3 pressure switches?

4 A. In terms of the initial selection of
5 Kapton, that's correct.

6 Q. Okay. Do you know if Dupont knew that
7 the Kapton it was providing to Texas
8 Instruments was going to be used in
9 automotive pressure switches?

10 A. Yes. I know that Dupont was aware that
11 the Kapton to TI would be used in
12 automotive pressure switches.

13 Q. And Dupont was aware of that prior to
14 production of the pressure switches for
15 the Panther platform vehicles?

16 A. I would expect so. I'm not sure of the
17 exact timing.

18 Q. Okay. You don't have personal knowledge
19 of the exact time?

20 A. I do not have personal knowledge of the
21 exact time.

22 Q. Okay. The Highlights that Mr. Jolly went
23 through extensively with you and
24 discussed talk about several testing

1 procedures that were employed during the
2 development process before production
3 actually occurred of the pressure
4 switches for the Panther platform
5 vehicles, was any of that testing during
6 the development stage and prior to actual
7 production ever discussed with Dupont?

8 A. I don't know whether any of that testing
9 was discussed with Dupont or not.

10 Q. Okay. Based on the documentation that
11 you've reviewed in advance of this
12 deposition and, and the deposition that
13 you gave in December, have you seen any
14 documentation that would lead you to
15 believe that Dupont knew of any of the
16 testing during the developmental stage
17 that was being conducted by Texas
18 Instruments?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Do you know if Texas Instruments ever
21 told Dupont about the teardrop phenomenon
22 that was discussed in the Highlights
23 documents that are attached as Exhibit 1?

24 A. I do not know.

1 Q. You talked with Mr. Jolly in connection
2 with the Highlights document about the
3 testing that was done of round versus
4 square sections of the Kapton and the
5 possibility that the round and square
6 Kapton in the previous test may have come
7 from different lots. Do you recall that
8 testimony?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Okay. Do you know for certain if the
11 material from different lots -- the
12 Kapton from different lots supplied by
13 Dupont was actually different in any
14 material way insofar as the
15 specifications that Texas Instruments
16 called for?

17 A. I do not know whether -- that the
18 material was different.

19 Q. Okay. And do you know whether any of the
20 material may have not met the
21 specifications that Texas Instruments
22 called for?

23 A. I'm not aware of any material from Dupont
24 that did not meet the specifications --

1 Q. Okay.

2 A. -- from Texas Instruments.

3 Q. Thank you for your time. Those are all
4 the questions I have.

5 MR. BURROW: Mr. Jolly, for
6 the record, my name is Stephen Burrow. I
7 just have two questions for you real
8 quick.

9 CROSS EXAMINATION.

10 BY MR. BURROW:

11 Q. Mr. Jolly had asked you at the beginning
12 of the deposition whether or not Texas
13 Instruments had sent anyone down to
14 inspect vehicles belonging to the
15 Campbells, Paynes and other plaintiffs
16 who -- in whose cases your deposition has
17 been noticed today. Do you recall that
18 question and answer you gave?

19 A. I don't recall the specific question. I
20 remember discussion about those topics.

21 Q. All right. Do you -- was, to your
22 knowledge, Texas Instruments given an
23 opportunity to inspect the Campbell's,
24 Payne's and other vehicles that are at

1 issue in this deposition prior to those
2 parties filing their lawsuits?

3 A. Not that I'm aware of.

4 Q. Thank you. No further questions.

5 MR. CARTER: And I would
6 just like one more thing on the record,
7 which is that I'm going to provide the
8 court reporter with the deposition
9 notices in the Payne, Rasca and Krupp
10 cases, and that they'll be made a part of
11 the record and exhibits per agreement of
12 Counsel here today.

13 MR. JOLLY: I agree.

14 MR. CARTER: No further
15 questions.

16 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This is
17 the video reporter. The time is 3:09.
18 We are going off the record.

19

20

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22

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24

C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-E

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Suffolk, SS

I, Jeffrey Gabriel, a Notary Public in
and for the Commonwealth of
Massachusetts, do hereby certify:

That [REDACTED] the Witness
whose deposition is hereinbefore set
forth, was duly sworn by me, and that
such testimony is a true and correct
transcription of my stenotype notes taken
in the foregoing matter, to the best of
my knowledge, skill and ability.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing
transcript is a true and correct record
of the testimony given by the said
plaintiff at the time and place specified
hereinbefore.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither a
relative nor employee of nor counsel for
any of the parties, nor am I financially
interested directly or indirectly in the
outcome of this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand and Notarial Seal this ____th day
of July, 2000.

Jeffrey Gabriel, Notary Public

My Commission Expires: December 21, 2006

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