



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 03-059
Prompted By: IE03-068
Date Opened: 12/30/2003
Principal Investigator: Peter Kivett
Subject: Engine Stall

Manufacturer: Saab Cars USA, Inc.
Products: 2003 Saab 9-3
Population: 21000

Problem Description: The engine may stall during cruising, acceleration, or deceleration.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	16	0	16
Crashes/Fires:	1	0	1
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

*Description Of Other:

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Engineer: Peter Kivett
Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary: ODI has received 16 complaints alleging engine stall without warning in 2003 Saab 9-3 vehicles. The subject vehicles are equipped with a 2.0-liter turbocharged and intercooled DOHC 16-valve engine, which is believed to be new to the 2003 Saab 9-3. Some of the complaints indicate that dealers repaired the condition by reprogramming the engine control module.

The stalling incidents have allegedly occurred during cruising, acceleration, and deceleration at speeds ranging from 8 to 40 mph. One complaint alleged that the incident resulted in a crash when the Saab impacted the vehicle in front because of the loss of power braking assist that resulted from the stalled engine. A preliminary evaluation has been opened to assess the cause, scope, frequency, and safety risk of stalling incidents in the subject vehicles.

1/14/04
12-31-03