ODI RESUME

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

Investigation: EA 03-012
Prompted By: RQ03-004
Date Opened: 07/25/2003
Principal Investigator: BRUCE YORK-B
Subject: REAR BRAKE LINE FAILURE

Manufacturer: FORD MOTOR COMPANY
Products: 1995-97 GRAND MARQUIS, TOWN CAR, CROWN VICTORIA
Population: 785262

Problem Description: THE REAR BRAKE LINES MAY FAIL, RESULTING IN INCREASED STOPPING DISTANCE.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	40	192	232
Crashes/Fires:	2	0	2
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	478	478

*Description Of Other: WARRANTY CLAIMS

Action: AN ENGINEERING ANALYSIS HAS BEEN OPENED.

Engineer: *Bruce York*   Date: 07/25/2003
Div. Chief: *Jeffrey L. Quandt*   Date: 07/25/2003
Office Dir.: *Kathleen C. DeMeter*   Date: 07/25/2003

Summary: ODI HAS RECEIVED 40 COMPLAINTS ALLEGING REAR BRAKE LINE FAILURE IN THE SUBJECT VEHICLES, INCLUDING 8 THAT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED THIS YEAR. AN ADDITIONAL 192 REPORTS AND 478 WARRANTY CLAIMS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM FORD. A LEAK IN THE REAR BRAKE LINE CAN CAUSE EXTENDED STOPPING DISTANCE.

A SEARCH OF ODI'S COMPLAINT DATABASE FOR PEER VEHICLE COMPLAINTS, USING THE SAME BRAKE LINE FAILURE CRITERIA AS FOR THE SUBJECT VEHICLES AND THE SAME MODEL YEARS (1995-97), IDENTIFIED ONLY 1 COMPLAINT INVOLVING GENERAL MOTORS CAPRICE/IMPLALA/88/98/REGAL VEHICLES AND ONLY 2 COMPLAINTS INVOLVING CHRYSLER LH-CARS.

AN ENGINEERING ANALYSIS HAS BEEN OPENED TO FURTHER EVALUATE THE FREQUENCY, SCOPE, AND CAUSAL FACTORS RELATED TO REAR BRAKE LINE FAILURES IN THE SUBJECT VEHICLE POPULATION.

ODI VOQ #	Crash
566421	
568000	
605610	
710291	
718204	
734278	
734743	
742635	
751207	
753101	
759033	x
768988	
784535	
821451	
831070	
831536	
853259	
877618	
884408	
889006	
897329	
899222	
8002281	
8006620	
8007180	
8014136	
8018081	
8018791	
8019117	
8020435	
8020478	
8022305	
10001439	
10005652	
10014579	
10015285	x
10016680	
10017531	
10021116	
10022543	
10025757	