



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 04-005
Prompted By: Consumer Complaints
Date Opened: 02/19/2004 Date Closed: 09/28/2004
Principal Investigator: Tom Bowman
Subject: Tailgate Cable Breakage

Manufacturer: General Motors Corp.
Products: 1999-2003 Silverado & Sierra / 2002-2003 Avalanche & Cad Ext
Population: 3660213

Problem Description: When the tailgate is in the open (horizontal) position, one or both tailgate support cables can break causing the supported individual and/or cargo to drop to the ground without warning

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	161	397	558
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	36	96	132
# Injuries:	44	104	148
Fatality Incidents:	2	0	2
# Fatalities:	2	0	2
Other*:	0	61032	0

*Description of Other: Warranty Claims

Action: Close this Engineering Analysis

Engineer: Thomas Bowman

Date: 09/28/2004

Div. Chief: Richard Boyd

Date: 09/28/2004

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 09/28/2004

Summary: General Motors filed a Defect Notice 04V-129 on March 17, 2004, which outlines a program to replace the tailgate cables installed in affected Model Year 2000-2004 vehicles. Refer to ODI's closing report for EA04-005 for additional information.

ODI is aware of reports of tailgate cable breakage occurring in model year 1999 and earlier vehicles. These vehicles were equipped with similar tailgate cables as addressed by 04V-129, but are not being addressed by campaign 04V-129. ODI is initiating a separate investigation to address these vehicles.

The Complaint-Injury-Fatality Statistics summarized above pertain to Model year 2000-2004 vehicles. The Complaint-Injury Statistics for Model Year 1999 and earlier vehicles are summarized on the opening resume for that investigation.

Not
fixed on
9/30/04