



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

## ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 04-017  
Prompted By: Consumer Complaints  
Date Opened: 06/30/2004 Date Closed: 02/10/2005  
Principal Investigator: Chris Lash  
Subject: Stuck-Open Throttle

Manufacturer: Volkswagen Of America, Inc  
Products: 1998-1999 Audi A4 and A6 and Volkswagen Passat  
Population: 106,045

Problem Description: The throttle may not return to idle after cruising at steady-state conditions in cold ambient temperatures.

### FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	32	42	74
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	32	32

\*Description of Other: Warranty reports where throttle control valve was serviced or replaced - A6 (30), A4 (2).

Action: This Engineering Analysis has been closed. Recall 04V-495.

Engineer: Christopher Lash *Chl*  
Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt  
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 02/10/2005  
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Summary: VWoA has recalled approximately 28,300 MY 1998-99 A6 vehicles in cold weather states that experienced the highest rate of throttle icing incidents in the subject vehicles (04V-495). The failure rate in the A4 and Passat vehicles is much lower than in the recalled vehicles. ODI will continue to monitor the experience in the A4 and Passat vehicles. The closing of this investigation does not constitute a finding by NHTSA that no safety-related defect exists for the Audi A4 or VW Passat vehicles. The agency reserves the right to take further action if warranted by a change in circumstances.

For further details see the attached closing report.

107  
2/17/05