



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 04-035
 Prompted By: IE 04-017
 Date Opened: 04/12/2004 Date Closed: 07/13/2004
 Principal Investigator: Ali Motamedamin
 Subject: Glass Roof Shattering

Manufacturer: Nissan North America, Inc.
 Products: 2004 Nissan Maxima (with "Skyview" glass-paneled roof)
 Population: 104,355

Problem Description: Alleged shattering of the glass of the "Skyview" roof while the vehicle is in use.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	7	70	77
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	3	1	4
# Injuries:	4	1	5
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	167	167

*Description of Other: Warranty Claims.

Action: This Preliminary Evaluation (PE) is closed. Nissan North America Inc. will conduct safety recall (NHTSA 04V326).

Engineer: Ali Motamedamin A.M.
 Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper
 Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 07/13/2004
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Summary: The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) opened this investigation on April 12, 2004, based on five reports indicating that the "Skyview" glass-paneled roof, which is standard equipment in Model Year (MY) 2004 Nissan Maxima vehicles, would suddenly shatter while the vehicle is in use. Five injuries have been reported to ODI, resulting in cuts to the head, hands, arms, or face.

Nissan discovered that their supplier for the "Skyview" glass-paneled roof did not properly quench (cool) the glass after it was formed. The resulting temper imbalance could create excessive internal stress in the glass and can eventually cause the glass to shatter. Nissan reports that glass produced beginning October 23, 2003 was properly quenched.

Nissan has informed the agency that it will recall 32,100 MY 2004 Nissan Maximas built from the beginning of production thru December 17, 2003. It reports that vehicles built after December 17 are not affected. To correct the condition Nissan will replace the existing "Skyview" glass with new properly quenched glass. Nissan will begin owner notification on September 7, 2004.

ODI is aware of only one complaint and Nissan reports no complaints of "Skyview" glass-paneled roof breakage on vehicles built after the December 17 date. This investigation is closed, however the agency will monitor complaints and take appropriate action as appropriate.

TSC 7-14-04