



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 04-054
 Prompted By: Consumer complaints
 Date Opened: 07/30/2004 Date Closed: 11/22/2004
 Principal Investigator: John Abbott
 Subject: Power Liftgate Latch

Manufacturer: DaimlerChrysler Corporation
 Products: 2003 Town & Country and Grand Caravan
 Population: 121,954

Problem Description: Power liftgate opening while driving.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	5	35	40
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	0	0

*Description of Other:

Action: Upgrade to Engineering Analysis (EA04-031)

Engineer: John Abbott

Date: 11/22/2004

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper

Date: 11/22/2004

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 11/22/2004

Summary: This investigation was opened on July 30, 2004, based on ODI consumer complaints alleging unwanted opening of the vehicle's power liftgate (PLG) while driving.

In DaimlerChrysler Corporation (DCC)'s September 17, 2004 response to ODI's information request letter, it provided additional consumer complaints and lawsuits.

DCC states in part, "...the PLG latch becomes stuck in a semi-closed state not allowing the PLG latch to engage the striker, thus not closing the liftgate completely." In this condition the PLG ajar warning light will not be illuminated and the PLG can rise (not a powered open) while driving.

This investigation has been upgraded to EA04-031 for further analysis.

11/22/04
JAB