



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

# ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 04-002  
Prompted By: IB03-075  
Date Opened: 01/07/2004  
Principal Investigator: Peter Ong  
Subject: Fuel Line Leakage In Engine Compartment

Manufacturer: Subaru Of America, Inc.  
Products: 2002 Subaru Impreza WRX  
Population: 25,350

Problem Description: The complaints allege gasoline odor in the passenger and engine compartments.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	12	0	12
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: This Preliminary Evaluation has been opened

Engineer: Peter C. Ong / *PO*

Date: 01/07/2004

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper

Date: 01/07/2004

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 01/07/2004

Summary: ODI has received 12 consumer complaints alleging gasoline fuel smell in the interior cabin and engine compartments. In addition, some reports indicate observation of fuel leaking from a rubber fuel hose onto the engine and exhaust system. Gasoline vapors from leaking fuel are circulated into the passenger compartment via the heating and ventilation system. While most complainants allege the fuel smell to be most noticeable during cold weather, some complainants (ODI # 10049650 and 10030417) allege fuel odor at higher ambient temperatures of 40 and above.

On April 1, 2003, Subaru issued TSB 09-36-03 titled: "Fuel Smell in Cold Weather." In the TSB, Subaru states that some MY 2002 Impreza WRX (2.0L turbo) vehicles may exhibit a fuel odor in cold weather (temperature < 14 degree F) from the rubber hose connector, located under the engine intake manifold, between two direct fuel-feed metal lines to the injectors.

*12/2/23/04*