



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 04-039
Prompted By: IE04-011
Date Opened: 04/13/2004
Principal Investigator: Peter Kivett
Subject: False Park

Manufacturer: DaimlerChrysler Corporation
Products: 2003-04 DODGE 2500/3500 with Automatic Transmission
Population: 40000 estimated

Problem Description: The transmission allegedly shifts from park to reverse gear after the vehicle has been parked with the key still in the ignition and the engine running.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	9	0	9
Crashes/Fires:	6	0	6
Injury Incidents:	2	0	2
# Injuries:	2	0	2
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

*Description Of Other:

Action: A PRELIMINARY EVALUATION HAS BEEN OPENED.

Engineer: Peter Kivett

Date: 04/13/2004

Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt

Date: 04/13/2004

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 04/13/2004

Summary: ODI has received nine complaints alleging that the transmission spontaneously shifted into reverse after the driver had placed the gearshift lever in the park position with the engine running. Four of the incidents involved allegations of "unintended vehicle movement" occurring after the driver had fully exited the vehicle. One such event resulted in the vehicle reversing and pinning the operator against a garage wall with its rear bumper. The subject vehicles are equipped with shift mechanisms mounted on the steering column and an electric "PRNDL" (gear position indicator). A preliminary evaluation has been opened.

VCS
4/15/04