



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

## ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 04-064  
Prompted By: Consumer Complaints  
Date Opened: 09/17/2004  
Principal Investigator: Peter Ong  
Subject: Power Sliding Door

Manufacturer: General Motors Corp.  
Products: MY 1998-2004 GM Venture, Transport/Montana and Silhouette  
Population: 1,124,000 (Estimated)

Problem description: Wrist or lower arm injury alleged from entrapment of occupant arm between power sliding door interior handle and middle row seat back during powered door opening sequence.

### Failure report summary

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	21	0	21
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	19	0	19
# Injuries:	19	0	19
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

### \*Description of other:

Action: This Preliminary Evaluation is Opened

Engineer: Peter C. Ong *pco*

Date: 09/17/2004

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper

Date: 09/17/2004

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. Demeter

Date: 09/17/2004

Summary: MY 1998 through 2004 GM U-Van (Chevrolet Venture, Oldsmobile Silhouette and Pontiac Transport/Montana) vehicles are available with an optional power sliding door. The interior handle of the door is oriented in the vertical position, is recessed into the interior door panel, and is at the same vertical level as the middle row seat back. Complaints allege that the power sliding door can injure the middle-row outboard seat occupant's wrist if the interior door handle is held with the hand during the powered opening sequence and the elbow becomes jammed into the seat back. NHTSA has received 21 complaints alleging 19 arm/wrist injuries due to the powered door opening. These include allegations of 13 broken bones in the arm/wrist area requiring a cast and/or surgery.

*pco  
9/17/04*