



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

# ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 04-066  
Prompted By: IE 04-068 (Steve Chan)  
Date Opened: 09/21/2004  
Principal Investigator: Cheryl Tuosto  
Subject: Tire Valve Failure

Manufacturer: DaimlerChrysler Corporation  
Products: 2003-2004 Dodge Sprinter  
Population: 16,397 (Estimated)

Problem Description: A tire valve allegedly fails resulting in rapid loss of tire pressure and an increase in the risk of a vehicle crash.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	5	0	5
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: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Engineer: Cheryl Tuosto CAT

Date: 09/21/2004

Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt

Date: 09/21/2004

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 09/21/2004

Summary: ODI has received five (5) complaints alleging tire valve failure in the subject vehicles, which caused the tire to deflate unexpectedly. Some of the complainants reported that multiple tire valve failures occurred on their vehicle. All complainants reported that their vehicles had between 6,000 and 28,000 miles on them when the failures occurred and at least 3 of the complainants reported that their vehicles had the original equipment tires and tire valves on them when the tire valves allegedly failed.

None of the incidents reported resulted in crashes or injuries.

A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to determine any potential safety-related consequences and the scope of the affected population.

JQ  
7-11-04