



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

# ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 04-080  
Prompted By: Consumer Complaints  
Date Opened: 12/02/2004  
Principal Investigator: Peter Kivett  
Subject: Steering Knuckle Fracture

Manufacturer: General Motors Corp.  
Products: 2003 - 2004 Hummer H2  
Population: 69000 (Estimated)

Problem Description: The steering knuckle fractures at the lower ball joint attachment.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	4	0	4
Crashes/Fires:	4	0	4
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: Peter Kivett

Date: 12/02/2004

Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt

Date: 12/02/2004

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 12/02/2004

Summary: ODI has received four complaints alleging incidents of steering knuckle fracture at the lower ball joint attachment in model year (MY) 2003 through 2004 hummer H2 vehicles. The consumers have all stated that the vehicles were not driven off-road or exposed to other abusive driving conditions. One event occurred when a newspaper was conducting a vehicle evaluation test drive in a parking lot.

All four complainants allege that the failure caused them to lose control of the vehicle. One consumer crashed into a parked vehicle. Another consumer alleged that the failure caused the vehicle to veer into oncoming traffic and run into a ditch on the opposite side of the road. Three of the four complaints allege that the knuckle failure resulted in wheel separation.

A preliminary evaluation has been opened to assess the scope, frequency, and safety consequences associated with the alleged defect in the subject vehicles.

*Dec 2, 04 03:00  
PKK*