



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 05-007
Date Opened: 02/10/2005 Date Closed: 06/08/2005
Principal Investigator: Mark Swanson
Subject: Headlights failure

Manufacturer: Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.
Products: 2000-2001 Mitsubishi Eclipse
Population: 144,734

Problem Description: Complaints allege that the headlamp connector to the wiring harness overheats and causes the headlamp to stop working.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

| | ODI | Manufacturer | Total |
|---------------------|-----|--------------|-------|
| Complaints: | 14 | 45 | 59 |
| 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 | 3,583 | 3,583 |

*Description of Other: Warranty

Action: The Preliminary Evaluation (PE) has been closed.

Engineer: Mark B. Swanson /MS

Date: 06/08/2005

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper

Date: 06/08/2005

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 06/08/2005

Summary: Improper installation of the original equipment headlight connector can cause increased terminal resistance and overheat the headlight connector.

This problem can affect independently either headlight but does not cause simultaneous failure of both headlights. The problem also does not affect front parking lamps. As a result, the complaints typical report single failure of one headlight. There are no crashes or loss of vehicle control reported.

A safety-related defect trend has not been identified at this time and further use of agency resources does not appear to be warranted. The closing of this investigation does not constitute a finding by NHTSA that no safety-related defect exists. The agency reserves the right to take further action if warranted by the circumstances.

*u/9/05
ED*