



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 05-019

Date Opened: 04/21/2005

Date Closed: 08/19/2005

Principal Investigator: Cynthia Glass

Subject: Finger Pinch Point

Manufacturer: Nissan North America, Inc.

Products: 2004 Nissan Quest

Population: 60,000

Problem Description: Consumers allege injuries to their fingers while adjusting the second row seat.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	5	12	11
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	5	12	11
# Injuries:	5	12	11
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

*Description of Other:

Action: This preliminary evaluation is upgraded to an engineering analysis (EA05-012).

Engineer: Cynthia Glass *CQ*
Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 08/19/2005

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Summary: ODI has received five reports alleging that the consumer was injured using the vehicle's second-row seat release lever to fold the second row seat. Nissan states, "...the customer operation of the lever in some cases and subsequent orientation of their fingers is different than expected." Nissan also reported additional complaints for a total of 11 injuries. Nissan modified the lever for production twice. The latest (second modification) design provides a larger sized handle that contains a "cup" into which the seat occupant can place their fingers to operate the adjustment lever. Nissan reports no injuries associated with the "cup" design lever. Beginning June 2004, Nissan initiated a "customer satisfaction initiative" that included replacing the original design handle with the first modification handle (this is not the "cup" design handle mentioned above). The investigation has been upgraded to an engineering analysis (EA05-012) to allow further analysis of the issue.

CQ 19A4905