



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 05-006
Prompted By: PE04-077 (Cheryl Tuosto)
Date Opened: 03/25/2005
Principal Investigator: Cheryl Rose
Subject: Alternator Failure/ Engine Stalling

Manufacturer: Nissan North America, Inc.
Products: 2003-2004 Nissan Murano
Population: 118,404

Problem Description: The alternator fails to provide charging voltage causing the engine to stall.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	28	144	167
Crashes/Fires:	0	2	2
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	32	1,584	1,616

*Description Of Other: 32 ODI and 37 mfr. alternator failure (no stall indicated) complaints and 1,547 warranty claims

Action: An Engineering Analysis (EA) has been opened.

Engineer: Cheryl Rose

Date: 03/25/2005

Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt

Date: 03/25/2005

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 03/25/2005

Summary: ODI opened PE04-077 based on 14 reports of alleged engine stalling due to alternator failure. All of the complaints reported that the vehicle could not be restarted after the stall occurred. During PE04-077, additional failure data was identified as noted in the failure report summary above.

During PE04-077, Nissan identified that there had been alternator warranty replacements due to an open circuit in the rotor coil caused by wire fatigue.

ODI'S analysis shows failure rates that are of concern to ODI and indicates that the alleged defect is continuing to occur in the subject vehicles. ODI's analysis also shows that nearly all of the alternator warranty claims submitted resulted in engine stalls and at least 25% of the engine stalls resulted in a no restart condition. However, in 71% of the warranty data submitted, ODI has not been able to determine if the consumer could restart the vehicle.

This Engineering Analysis has been opened to further investigate this concern, to assess the potential safety-related consequences, and to determine the scope of the affected population.

LVR J
3/25/05