



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

## ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 05-014  
Prompted By:  
Date Opened: 09/13/2005  
Principal Investigator: Stephen McHenry  
Subject: Accelerator Pedal Interference

Manufacturer: Ford Motor Company  
Products: 2003 & 2004 Mustang Cobra  
Population: 18,216

**Problem Description:** The carpet may interfere with accelerator pedal return. This condition may result in undesired acceleration.

### FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	35	7	42
Crashes/Fires:	2	2	4
Injury Incidents:	0	1	1
# Injuries:	0	1	1
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	79	79

\*Description Of Other: Warranty claims concerning accelerator pedal interference

**Action:** An engineering analysis has been opened.

Engineer: Stephen McHenry *SMH*  
Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt  
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 09/13/2005  
Date: 09/13/2005  
Date: 09/13/2005

**Summary:** PE05-038 was opened on July 7, 2005, with 11 consumer complaints to ODI alleging incidents of throttle sticking due to accelerator pedal interference with the carpet. ODI has received an additional 24 complaints since the PE was opened. During PE05-038, Ford supplied complaint and warranty information regarding 86 additional incidents of accelerator pedal interference in model year 2003 to 2004 Mustang Cobra vehicles. Eighty-five of these had concerns of accelerator pedal sticking, 70 of which were analyzed as being related to carpet interference. ODI is continuing its analysis of the causal factors in the remaining 15 incidents.

- 
- An engineering analysis has been opened to further assess the frequency, scope and safety consequences of the alleged defect.

*SMH 9/13/05*