



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 05-021
Prompted By: PE05-041
Date Opened: 12/06/2005
Principal Investigator: Stephen McHenry
Subject: Throttle Control Malfunction

Manufacturer: Volvo Cars of N.A. LLC.
Products: MY 1999-2002 VOLVO C70/S60/S70/S80/V70/V70XC equipped with ETM
Population: 320,000 (estimated)

Problem Description: The electronic throttle module (ETM) may fail resulting in a loss of throttle control.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	591	1,600	2,191
Crashes/Fires:	5	3	8
Injury Incidents:	0	1	1
# Injuries:	0	1	1
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	76,622	76,622

*Description Of Other: Warranty claims for ETM repair or replacement.

Action: An Engineering Analysis has been opened.

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

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Summary: A Preliminary Evaluation (PE05-041) was opened on July, 26, 2005, based on 136 consumer complaints to ODI alleging throttle control malfunctions in the subject vehicles. ODI has now received 591 complaints of ETM failures which allege symptoms with potential safety related consequences. These include allegations of engine stall, vehicle surging forward without accelerator input, vehicle hesitation upon acceleration and sudden and unexpected transition into reduced performance operation (limp mode). Volvo submitted over 2,900 complaints concerning the ETM in the subject vehicles during PE05-041. ODI's preliminary analysis of a sample the Volvo complaints identified approximately 55 percent with one or more of the symptoms described above. ODI is continuing its assessment of the information contained in the Volvo complaints.

In November 2005, to resolve an investigation by the California Air Resources Board, Volvo announced that it would extend the warranty coverage to 10 years / 200,000 miles for the ETM in approximately 356,000 model year 1999 through 2002 passenger cars sold in the United States and Canada. Under Volvo's policy, vehicles that experience ETM failures will receive a variety of repairs including ETM cleaning, reprogramming the engine control module and/or replacement of the ETM.

This investigation has been upgraded to an Engineering Analysis to continue to assess the safety consequences of ETM failures in the subject vehicles.

SMH
12/7/05