



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 05-010
Date Opened: 02/15/2005
Principal Investigator: CYNTHIA GLASS
Subject: INOPERATIVE TAIL LAMPS

Manufacturer: General Motors Corporation
Products: MY 2000-2002 Saturn L-Series
Population: 282,000 (Estimated)

Problem description: Complainants allege that the tail lamps go out completely while operating the vehicle.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	50	0	50
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	0	0

*Description Of Other:

Action: Open a Preliminary Evaluation.

Engineer: Cynthia Glass
Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. Demeter

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Summary: On January 25, 2005, a Safety Defect Petition was received by the Office of Defects Investigation (ODI), requesting an investigation of inoperative tail lamps on my 2000 - 2002 Saturn L-Series vehicles. The petitioner alleges a defect in the design and assembly of the tail lamp assembly circuit board and the light socket contact. Under certain circumstances, the circuit board can melt/corrode, disrupting power to the tail lamp, and causing the tail lamp to go out completely and permanently. In addition, the petitioner alleges that application of the service brake causes the tail lamp to cease to function.

2/16/05
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