



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 05-064
Date Opened: 12/02/2005
Principal Investigator: Lee Strickland
Subject: Windshield Wiper Arm Performance

Manufacturer: Volvo Cars of N.A. LLC.
Products: 2004-2005 VOLVO XC90
Population: 88200 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Windshield wiper arm retaining nut may lose torque and allow arm to slip on its drive shaft

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

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

*Description Of Other:

Action: Open a Preliminary Evaluation

Engineer: Leamon H. Strickland *LHS*
Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary:

On May 24, 2005, the manufacturer issued a "Tech-Net Note" to its dealers regarding loosening of the windshield wiper arm retaining nut, which reportedly may occur during extreme winter weather with heavy snow and ice. The Tech-Net Note instructs dealers to ensure proper fit of the nut onto the pivot shaft, and to tighten the nut to the proper torque.

The Office of Defects Investigation reviewed the manufacturer's submission of Early Warning reporting data and identified field reports concerning windshield wiper arm not properly secured to the drive/pivot shaft. In each case, the cause of the incident was identified and loosening of the nut that secures the wiper arm to its pivot.

ODI has opened a Preliminary Evaluation investigation to further assess this issue.