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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 06-005
Prompted By: PE05-060
Date Opened: 03/15/2006 Date Closed: 03/12/2007
Principal Investigator: Peter Ong
Subject: SRS Warning Light Illumination

Manufacturer: Porsche Cars North America, Inc.
Products: MY 2003-2006 Porsche Cayenne, Cayenne S & Cayenne Turbo
Population: 50,401

Problem Description: Inappropriate airbag warning light illumination related to the side airbag wiring harness and module electrical integrity

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	2	160	162
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	7,785	7,785

*Description of Other: Warranty Claims

Action: Close This Engineering Analysis (EA)

Engineer: *Peter C. Ong* PCO Date: *03/12/2007*
Div. Chief: *Thomas Z. Cooper* Date: *03/12/2007*
Office Dir.: *Kathleen C. DeMeter* Date: *03/12/2007*

Summary: Porsche is initiating a customer notification action to address a condition related to a faulty or loose connector in the side airbag system. Porsche's testing has shown that the faulty connector will not prevent side airbag deployment. The faulty connector will cause the circuit resistance to exceed the threshold for illumination of the air bag warning light. Porsche has reported a large number of warranty claims for illumination of the air bag warning light and many vehicles have been serviced to correct this condition as described in the Cayenne technical information bulletin: Group 6, #11/04 "airbag warning light activated." Porsche will perform this service to all remaining uncorrected vehicles under a new product improvement campaign starting at the end of April 2007. All owners of a subject vehicle built through November 2004 will be notified by Porsche to bring the vehicle to a dealer to receive the free modification. Vehicles built after November 2004 do not contain the subject connector.

In addition, Porsche reports that a small number of vehicles built in November and December 2003, may contain an incorrectly manufactured side airbag module. This may also produce illumination of the airbag warning light that would become evident soon after the vehicle is put into service. Warranty data indicates that these modules have been corrected and no longer present a risk. Porsche has not received any report of non-deployment of the side airbag.

The action taken by Porsche is sufficient to resolve the issue raised by this investigation. The closing of this investigation does not constitute a finding by NHTSA that no safety-related defect exists. The agency reserves the right to take further action if warranted by the circumstances.