



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 06-015

Prompted By: Recall 03V528 & Consumer complaints

Date Opened: 08/28/2006

Date Closed: 03/15/2007

Principal Investigator: Mark Swanson

Subject: Instrument panel fires

Manufacturer: DaimlerChrysler Corporation

Products: 2004-2005 Dodge Durango

Population: 244,609

Problem Description: Vehicles fires occur in the driver side dash area while vehicles were either being driven or were parked

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	22	191	213
Crashes/Fires:	14	64	78
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	2,221	2,221

*Description of Other: Warranty

Action: This investigation is closed. Daimler Chrysler is conducting a safety recall (NHTSA recall number 07V092).

Engineer: Mark B. Swanson *NBS*

Date: 03/15/2007

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper

Date: 03/15/2007

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 03/15/2007

Summary: This investigation originated from complaints received by the agency reporting instrument panel (IP) fires on vehicles that were covered under a prior recall (recall 03V528) by Daimler Chrysler (DCC) to correct a cracked capacitor in the IP.

DCC has now identified another condition that can cause overheating of an integrated circuit that controls interior lighting. This condition affects certain model year 2004-2006 Dodge Durango vehicles. DCC's March 6, 2007 letter to the agency states, "under certain operating conditions, an integrated circuit located in the instrument cluster may overheat and result in an instrument panel fire. DCC will conduct a safety recall to inspect the cluster for damage and replace it if necessary. If the cluster shows no evidence of damage, it will be re-flashed [re-program the cluster] to prevent the potential for this condition. In addition, all vehicles will receive a wiring modification that directs the interior lighting to a portion of the integrated circuit with additional current carrying capacity."

This recall covers 328,424 vehicles manufactured from 4/03/03 through 6/30/06.

See NHTSA recall number 07V092 for details.