



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 06-022
Date Opened: 06/19/2006 Date Closed: 10/30/2006
Principal Investigator: Peter C. Ong
Subject: SRS Warning Light Illumination

Manufacturer: Volkswagen of America, Inc.
Products: 2004-2005 VW Touareg
Population: 53,186 units

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

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	4	508	512
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	12,594	12,594

*Description of Other: warranty claims related to issue

Action: Close this PE investigation

Engineer: Peter C. Ong *pcO*

Date: 10/30/2006

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper

Date: 10/30/2006

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 10/30/2006

Summary: MY 2004-05 (to 11/2004) Touareg vehicles have a potentially faulty/loose side air bag wiring connector that can cause the wiring circuit resistance to exceed the design limit and illuminate the supplemental restraint system (SRS) air bag light. On 02/2005, VW issued a technical service bulletin (TSB #69-05-02) to address this condition by replacing the connector with a direct connection. VW's testing has shown that proper deployment of the side air bag is not affected by the connector fault. However, there are a large number of warranty claims due to air bag light (ABL) illumination.

VW is planning to initiate a "Touareg service pack"/ customer satisfaction campaign (CSC) in December 2006. VW will replace the side air bag wiring connector with a direct connection on all remaining uncorrected vehicles built prior to 11/2004.

In addition, VW reports that a small number of vehicles built in October and November 2003, may contain an incorrectly manufactured side air bag module. This also may produce ABL illumination 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. VW has not received any alleged side air bag non-deployment report.

Action taken by the manufacturer 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.