



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

# ODI RESUME

Investigation: RQ 06-006  
Date Opened: 05/05/2006 Date Closed: 08/28/2006  
Principal Investigator: Mark Swanson  
Subject: Instrument panel fires

Manufacturer: DaimlerChrysler Corporation  
Products: 2004 Dodge Durango  
Population: 129,153

Problem Description: Vehicle fires started from the driver side dash area while the vehicles were being driven and parked.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	7	98	115
Crashes/Fires:	8	28	36
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	847	847

\*Description of Other: Warranty

Action: Upgraded to Engineering Analysis, EA06-015.

Engineer: Mark B. Swanson

Date: 08/28/2006

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper *TZC*

Date: 08/28/2006

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 08/28/2006

Summary: This investigation originated from complaints received by the agency reporting instrument panel (IP) fires on vehicles that were recalled (recall 03V528) by DaimlerChrysler (DCC) to correct a defect that caused IP fires. The recall corrected a defect caused by a certain capacitor on the IP printed circuit board (PCB) that could crack and overheat. The fire could occur without warning while the vehicle is parked or in use. The recall remedy was to remove the capacitor from the IP. IPs used for vehicles produced after the recall (December 2003) did not contain the capacitor. ODI has also received reports of fires in vehicles produced after the recall, which do not have the defective capacitor. DCC and its supplier for the IP have identified a different location on the PCB that may overheat. This investigation has been upgraded to an Engineering Analysis (EA06-015) to further study this issue.

*TZC  
8-28-06*