



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  
 Principal Investigator: Peter C. Ong  
 Subject: SRS warning light illumination

Manufacturer: Porsche Cars North America, Inc.  
 Products: MY 2003-2006 Porsche Cayenne, Cayenne S & Cayenne Turbo  
 Population: 50,000 (estimated)

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

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	2	76	78
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	6,592	6,592

\*Description Of Other: Warranty claims related to issue

Action: Open this Engineering Analysis (EA)

Engineer: Peter C. Ong *peo*

Date: 03/15/2006

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper

Date: 03/15/2006

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 03/15/2006

Summary: During the preliminary evaluation phase, ODI identified 76 owner complaints and 6,582 warranty claims related to airbag warning light illumination from either a faulty side-impact airbag module or wiring harness. To date, there has been no allegation of crash, injury or death reported.

Porsche reports that a bad batch of modules was produced during mid-November to mid-December, 2003. However, Porsche's warranty data indicates that most of the modules replaced under warranty were on vehicles built before and after this period indicating that the issue could be more widespread.

Porsche reports that the wiring harness malfunction is due to a faulty connector leading to the airbag module as a result of environmental and mechanical stress. In June and November of 2004, Porsche added a protective coat of lubricant gel to the connector and rerouted the harness to fix the problem on all future production.

Porsche has not issued a recall campaign, but it has circulated to its dealers two service bulletins, both in September 2004 to address the above issues. This EA investigation is open to further investigate these issues.

*pc 3-16-06*