



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE06-015
Date Opened: 04/20/2006
Principal Investigator: Scott Yon
Subject: Clutch Linkage Failure

Manufacturer: DaimlerChrysler Corporation
Products: Model Year 2006 Jeep Wrangler with manual transmission
Population: 33,000 (estimated)

Problem Description: The clutch linkage may fail and result in unexpected engagement and or disablement.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	3	TBD	TBD
Crashes/Fires:	0	TBD	TBD
Injury Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
# Injuries:	0	TBD	TBD
Fatality Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
# Fatalities:	0	TBD	TBD

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Engineer: D. Scott Yon

Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary: The population of 33,000 vehicles is an estimate; the true population will be determined during the investigation. The three Vehicle Owner Questionnaires received by ODI report that the clutch linkage failures occurred at low mileages (less than 2,000 miles) and low speeds (two occurred while stopped, one occurred at 5 mph). The reports allege that the operator was pressing on the clutch pedal when the pedal suddenly lost resistance (fell lose) and the clutch engaged, after which the pedal was no longer capable of releasing the clutch. A noise from under the instrument panel was associated with the occurrence. The complainants further allege that a component in the clutch linkage system (a plastic device located at or near the clutch pedal lever) was the cause of the failure. No crashes or injuries are reported. A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to establish the scope, frequency and consequences of these failures.

*Faxed
4/20/06
3:50 PM
Day*