



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: RQ 06-001
Date Opened: 02/22/2006
Principal Investigator: Derek Rinehardt
Subject: Engine Stall

Manufacturer: Nissan North America, Inc.
Products: 2003 Nissan Altima
Population: 187332 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Consumers are alleging engine stalls, with no or delayed restart, and reduced engine power.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	29	0	0
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	0	0

*Description Of Other:

Action: A recall query has been opened.

Engineer: Derek Rinehardt DR
Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary:

On November 4, 2003, Nissan North America (Nissan) notified the Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) that a recall (NHTSA# 03V-455) was being conducted due to a potential defect with the crank position sensors that could result in engine stall. The remedy of the recall was to replace the crank position sensors. The scope of the recall as related to Nissan Altimas was model year 2002 and a limited quantity of model year 2003 (production dates June 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002).

According to Nissan, in the vehicles recalled under 03V-455, the circuit board for the crank position sensor may have an improper solder joint due to solder deformation caused by heat stress accelerated by the existence of flux residue during the soldering process. The defect could manifest itself as illumination of the "service engine soon" warning light, cessation of the engine without warning during operation, reduced engine power, or a no start condition.

ODI has received 29 complaints from owners of MY 2003 Nissan Altima vehicles alleging symptoms similar to those described in recall 03V-455. Some consumers are also alleging that the crank and/or cam position sensors are being replaced to correct alleged stalling conditions. A Recall Query has been opened to determine if the scope and remedy of recall 03V-455 are adequate.

DR 2/23/06