



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA07-014

Prompted by: Consumer Complaints

Date Opened: 09/28/2007

Date Closed: 07/07/2008

Principal Investigator: Lee Strickland

Subject: Passenger Engine Compartment Fires

Manufacturer: Volkswagen of America, Inc.

Products: 1999-2005 Volkswagen Passat

Population: 412,000

Problem Description: Ignition coil failures may lead to passenger/engine compartment fires.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	25	55	80
Crashes/Fires:	25	55	80
Injury Incidents:	1	1	2
# Injuries:	1	1	2
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other:	0	14850	14850

Description of Other: Potentially relevant warranty claims

Action: This Engineering Analysis has been closed. (08V-156)

Engineer: Leamon H. Strickland *LHS*

Date: 07/07/2008

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper

Date: 07/07/2008

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 07/07/2008

Summary:

The manufacturer notified NHTSA on 04-Apr-08 that a safety recall action would be initiated to remedy the issue. In June 2008, the manufacturer issued a technical service bulletin (Code 26E5/R5) regarding the specific procedures to be employed in this campaign. Vehicle owner notification letters were sent beginning approximately June 13, 2008. The campaign was assigned NHTSA No. 08V-156.

This recall affects all MY 1999-2005, 5th generation gasoline-powered Passat sedans and station wagons. Approximately 412,000 vehicles are affected. Corrective action will consist of installing additional exhaust system heat shielding to mitigate the potential thermal effects of engine ignition problems.

Based on this action, the subject EA has been closed.