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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE08-056
Date Opened: 09/17/2008 Date Closed: 01/14/2009
Principal Investigator: Stephen McHenry
Subject: Electronic Stability Control Malfunction

Manufacturer: General Motors Corp.
Products: 2005 – 2006 Chevrolet Corvette
Population: 48,218 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Inappropriate brake application of one or more wheels may occur suddenly and unexpectedly due to an electronic stability control system malfunction.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	6	33	36
Crashes/Fires:	2	1	3
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	1,549	1,549

*Description of Other: Warranty claims for replacement or repair of steering wheel position sensor or associated connector.

Action: This Preliminary Evaluation has been upgraded to an Engineering Analysis.

Engineer: *Stephen McHenry* Date: *01/14/2009*
Div. Chief: *Jeffrey Quandt* Date: *01/14/2009*
Office Dir.: *Kathleen C. DeMeter* Date: *01/14/2009*

Summary: On September 17, 2008, ODI opened Preliminary Evaluation PE08-056 to investigate allegations of inappropriate activation of the Electronic Stability Control (ESC) system in model year (MY) 2005 and 2006 Chevrolet Corvette vehicles. Some reports received by ODI and some reports to General Motors (GM) contained in GM's response to PE08-056 allege that the ESC system malfunctioned causing a sudden and inappropriate braking action without illumination of the brake lights and causing the vehicle to swerve left or right unexpectedly.

GM issued a technical service bulletin in January 2006, later revised in October 2007 (Bulletin no. 06-02-35-002b) concerning ESC problems in MY 2005 and 2006 Chevrolet Corvette vehicles with the telescoping steering wheel option. The bulletin was intended to correct a fretting corrosion problem with the steering wheel position sensor connector c202.

An Engineering Analysis has been opened (EA09-002) to continue to assess the scope, frequency, and safety-related consequences of the alleged defect.