



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE08-014
Date Opened: 03/04/08
Principal Investigator: Cynthia Glass
Subject: Front Passenger Door Fire

Manufacturer: Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.
Products: 2002-2003 Mitsubishi Galant
Population: 190,363 (estimated)

Problem Description: A fire erupted in the front, passenger door panel causing the windows and doors to automatically lock.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	4		
Crashes/Fires:	4		
Injury Incidents:	1		
# Injuries:	2		
Fatality Incidents:	0		
# Fatalities:	0		
Other:	1		

Description of Other: Duplicate complaint report

Action: This Preliminary Evaluation is opened.

Engineer: Cynthia Glass

Date: 03/04/2008

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper *TZC*

Date: 03/04/2008

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 03/04/2008

Summary:

Complaints allege that a fire erupted from the front passenger door panel without warning. The fire melted the door panel, the power door lock and the power window controls. The windows and the doors automatically locked during the fire. One complaint alleged second degree burns on the right leg and a sprained ankle sustained while trying to break out the window to exit the burning vehicle.

The agency has received five reports involving four unique incidents (one incident reported twice) alleging a fire, and some early warning reporting (EWR) data. This Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to further assess the potential safety consequences associated with the alleged defect.