

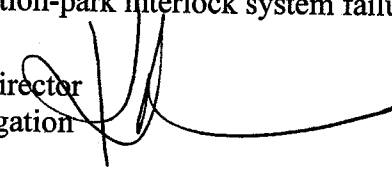


U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

Memorandum

Subject: **TEST REQUEST:** Ignition-park interlock system failures. Date: FEB 27 2008

From: Kathleen C. DeMeter, Director
Office of Defects Investigation  Reply to
Attn. of: NVS-210
PE08-006

To: Michael Monk, Director
Vehicle Research and Test Center

This memorandum requests the Vehicle Research and Test Center (VRTC) to conduct testing as described below.

BACKGROUND: The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) is currently investigating (under PE08-006) certain model year 2006 Mitsubishi Endeavor SUV models equipped with automatic transmissions. Complainants allege that the ignition key can be removed from the ignition switch when the transmission shift lever is in a non-park gear position, contrary to the requirements of FMVSS 114. In two cases the interlock failures lead to a roll-away vehicle crash when the driver parked then abandoned the vehicle without shifting it into park or setting the park brake.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the testing is to determine why the ignition-park interlock system failed and to determine if these failures are occurring in the subject vehicle population.

TEST EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURE: The test equipment and the procedure can be determined after further discussion between ODI and VRTC.

TEST VEHICLE(S): VRTC will need to obtain one of the complainant vehicles for technical assessment and may need to conduct a survey of subject vehicles.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The Investigator is Scott Yon (Phone: 202/366-0139) who is available to discuss the details of the testing with your engineer.

FINAL REPORT: It is requested that the test work and draft report be completed to a schedule to be determined in discussion with ODI.

cc: Jeffrey Quandt

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