



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 09-030
Date Opened: 06/16/2009
Principal Investigator: Derek Rinehardt
Subject: Rear Suspension lower link failure

Manufacturer: Isuzu Manufacturing Services of America, Honda (American Honda Motor Corp.)
Products: MY 1998 – 2002 Honda Passport/Isuzu Rodeo
Population: 190,000 (estimated)

Problem Description: The left or right rear suspension lower link may experience a corrosion failure and separate from the frame at its forward mounting point. This may result in a loss of vehicle control.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	21		
Crashes/Fires:	1		
Injury Incidents:	0		
# Injuries:	0		
Fatality Incidents:	0		
# Fatalities:	0		
Other*:	0		

*Description Of Other:

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

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

Date: 06/16/2009 *DR*
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Date: 06/16/2009

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received 21 Vehicle Owner Questionnaires, 18 from Salt-belt states, alleging failure of the forward mounting point of either the right or left rear suspension lower links to the frame due to excessive corrosion in the subject vehicles. Two of the complainants allege a lower link failure while driving resulting in a loss of vehicle control. One of these complainants alleges that the vehicle struck a guard rail as a result of the lower link failure.

ODI notes that Isuzu Motors America, inc (Isuzu) has previously conducted a safety recall of a defect condition that could result in separation of the subject rear suspension lower link in model year (MY) 1998 and 1999 Isuzu Rodeo vehicles (00V-058). In a letter dated February 29, 2000, Isuzu notified ODI of a safety related defect condition that could result in the rear suspension lower link rearward attaching bolt detaching and causing a separation of the lower link from the rear axle. Isuzu noted in the letter this condition may result in a loss of vehicle control and a possible vehicle crash.

A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the scope, frequency and potential safety consequences of the potential separation of the forward mount of the rear suspension lower link to frame.

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