



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE09-031

Date Opened: 7/13/2009

Principal Investigator: Chris Lash

Subject: Front suspension ball joint failure

Manufacturer: Ford Motor Company

Products: 2007-2008 Ford Edge and Lincoln MKX

Population: 250,000 (estimate)


Problem Description: A front suspension ball joint may separate while driving. If the ball joint separates, control of the vehicle could be affected, increasing the risk of a crash.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	3		
Crashes/Fires:	1		
Injury Incidents:	1		
# Injuries:	1		
Fatality Incidents:	0		
# Fatalities:	0		
Other*:	0		

*Description of Other:

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Engineer: Christopher Lash 

Date: 07/13/2009

Div. Chief: Jeffrey Quandt

Date: 07/13/2009

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 07/13/2009

Summary: The Office of Defects Investigations (ODI) has received three complaints alleging incidents of front suspension collapse while driving involving one model year (MY) 2007 and two MY 2008 Ford Edge vehicles. The failure mileages are 3,300, 10,282 and 10,908 miles. One incident occurred at highway speed and resulted in a crash and minor injuries to the driver. ODI also identified information related to the alleged defect in Early Warning data submitted by Ford. Preliminary information indicates that the failures may be related to a pinch bolt used to secure the ball joint stud to the steering knuckle. A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the frequency and safety consequences of the alleged defect.