



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

# ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE09-045  
Date Opened: 09/23/2009  
Principal Investigator: Derek Rinehardt  
Subject: Clutch Pedal Bracket Failure

Manufacturer: Mazda Motor Corp.  
Products: MY 2004 – 2006 Mazda RX8 w/manual transmissions  
Population: 40,000 (estimated)

**Problem Description:** The clutch pedal bracket may experience a failure at one of the two mounting points. Some consumers have alleged the bracket failure can cause loss of motive power and vehicle disablement due to the inability to engage a gear.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	40		
Crashes/Fires:	0		
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

*DR*

Date: 09/23/2009

Div. Chief: Jeffrey Quandt

Date: 09/23/2009

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 09/23/2009

### Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received 40 complaints alleging failure of the clutch pedal assembly mounting bracket. Fifteen of the complainants allege the bracket failure occurred as they were driving and created a vehicle disablement as they were unable to engage any gear. Two complainants also alleged interference between the clutch pedal and brake pedal occurred when applying the clutch pedal as a result of the clutch pedal assembly bracket failure. One of these complainants alleged the clutch pedal became trapped behind the brake pedal.

A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the scope, frequency and potential safety consequences of the failure of the clutch pedal assembly mounting bracket.