



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: RQ09-003
Date Opened: 07/01/2009
Principal Investigator: Michael Lee
Subject: Front Air Bag Crash Sensor Failure

Manufacturer: Chrysler, LLC.
Products: 2005 – 2006 Chrysler Minivans
Population: 316,000 (estimated)

Problem Description: Frame rail-mounted front air bag crash sensors can fail due to corrosion.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	44		
Crashes/Fires:	0		
Injury Incidents:	0		
# Injuries:	0		
Fatality Incidents:	0		
# Fatalities:	0		
Other*:	0		

*Description Of Other:

Action: A Recall Query has been opened.

Engineer: Michael Lee *MJL*
Div. Chief: Thomas Cooper
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary: In 2006, ODI investigated (EA06-003) corrosion related failures of the frame rail-mounted front air bag crash sensors in model year (MY) 2005-2006 Chrysler minivans (Dodge Caravan and Grand Caravan, and Chrysler Town and Country). Chrysler initially produced subject vehicles containing crash sensors with brass bushings and then at a later date changed to steel bushings. ODI found a significant failure trend in subject vehicles located in salt belt states due to corrosion of sensors with brass bushings. As a result of the investigation, Chrysler conducted a recall (07V-192) for MY 2005 Chrysler minivans in salt belt states and built between April 24, 2003 and February 2, 2005 to replace the front crash sensors with brass bushings. The recall covered vehicles originally sold, or currently registered, in 27 states (Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia and Wisconsin) and the District of Columbia.

Currently, ODI is aware of increased failure reporting for the crash sensors with steel bushings in salt belt states. ODI has opened a Recall Query to investigate this issue.