



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: DP 10-003
Prompted by: Petition
Date Opened: 03/29/2010
Principal Investigator: Chris Lash
Subject: Brake line failure due to corrosion

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: GENERAL MOTORS CORP.
Products: 2003 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD Pickup
Population: 189,000 (Estimated)
Problem Description: Brake line corrosion allegedly can result in rupture during brake application, resulting in sudden loss of brake effectiveness.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	0	TBD	TBD
Crashes/Fires:	0	TBD	TBD
Injury Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Fatality Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Other*:	1	TBD	TBD
*Description of Other: Petition			

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: ODI will conduct an analysis to determine whether to grant or deny the petition.

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received a petition requesting the investigation of Chevrolet pickup trucks for brake line corrosion that can result in a burst failure of a hydraulic brake line "under normal usage and brake line pressure." The petitioner stated that the brake line "burst in an area that was weakened by corrosion" resulting in a sudden reduction of brake effectiveness. This, in turn, resulted in a "large increase in stopping distance and with the brake pedal pushed to the floor." The petition further stated that inspection of the vehicle after the failure determined the cause to be a rusted brake line. This failure occurred under normal driving conditions with only six years of service.

ODI will conduct an analysis of the petitioner's allegations to determine whether further investigation is warranted.