



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA10-001
Prompted By: Consumer
Date Opened: 01/13/2010
Principal Investigator: Peter Ong
Subject: Inadvertent Airbag Deployment

Manufacturer: Ford Motor Company
Products: MY 2004-2006 Ford F-150 Vehicles
Population: 1,563,098

Problem Description: Driver frontal airbag deploys inadvertently without a crash.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	13	310	323
Crashes/Fires:	1	1	1
Injury Incidents:	7	59	66
# Injuries:	7	59	66
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other:	0	103	103

Description of Other: 103 related regular warranty claims were included in the complaints counts.

Action: Open this Engineering Analysis.

Engineer: Peter C. Ong *PCO*
Div. Chief: D. Scott Yon
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary:

Ford reports that inadvertent airbag deployments are most likely caused by the airbag horn mounting plate's sharp metal edge that eventually can chafe/cut the airbag clock spring jumper wire leading to a short-to-ground condition. Two hundred twenty five (225) of the 323 reports were for airbag deployments resulting in 66 injuries with the remaining 98 reports for an airbag light illumination condition. Injuries include abrasion, contusion and cuts to the arm/hand/face and/or upper body regions. One owner reported a broken tooth and two owners reported a loss of consciousness as a result of the airbag deployment.

Ford made an interim design change to the horn mounting plate in January 2006 and then major changes to the horn mounting plate, airbag module and clock spring jumper wire designs in June 2006 for the MY 2007 vehicles.

This Engineering Analysis is opened to ascertain the impact of this defect condition.