



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 10-004
Prompted by: PE09-044
Date Opened: 05/23/2010
Principal Investigator: Lee Strickland
Subject: Interior Door Handle Laceration Risk

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: GENERAL MOTORS CORP.
Products: MY 2007 Chevrolet Tahoe/GMC Yukon
Population: 433,385

Problem Description: Peeling or separation of chrome plating from base material of interior door handle may pose risk of laceration injury to vehicle occupants

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	5	129	134
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	6	63	69
Number of Injuries:	6	82	88
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	37265	37265

*Description of Other: Warranty claim reports filed by dealers

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open an Engineering Analysis

Summary:

The statistical data regarding problem experience in the table above are net counts for unique vehicles.

Review of information in PE09-044 discloses that while accounting for approximately two-thirds of the total population, MY 2007 subject vehicles are cited in more than 90 percent of the consumer complaints, injury reports, and warranty claims, respectively. In addition, improvements in the door handle manufacturing process during the MY 2007 production resulted in a decline in the occurrence of peeling/flaking of the thin chrome plating. Other environmental factors were also identified that may have influenced the occurrence of the condition which poses the alleged safety risk.

Additional analysis is required to identify the specific vehicles most susceptible to peeling or separation of the chrome plating from the handle, and to assess the significance of its occurrence.

An Engineering Analysis has been opened to facilitate further study of this issue for MY 2007 subject vehicle.