U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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Investigation:	EQ 10-004
Prompted by:	10E-010
Date Opened:	04/27/2010
Principal Investigator:	Alexander Ansley
Subject:	Remy Alternator Fires

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer:	REMY POWER PRODUCTS, LLP
Products:	Alternators produced 12/19/2009 through 2/22/2010
Population:	23,000 (Estimated)
Problem Description:	Certain alternators may cause heat damage or catch on fire if the regulator circuit was damaged by transient voltage during manufacturing, testing, or installation.

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

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open EQ

Summary:

On April 2, 2010 Remy reported that certain alternators, produced between December 19, 2009 and February 22, 2010, contain an internal voltage regulator that can become damaged by transient voltage that may occur when the regulator and the alternator are built, tested, and installed. Should the regulator's circuit be damaged, thermal degradation of the circuit can occur, increasing the risk of a fire or heat damage even when the vehicle is off. NHTSA assigned recall number 10E-010 to this matter.

General Motors filed recall 10V-138 on 4/1/2010 and Navistar filed recall 10V-158 on 4/16/2010 for vehicles they manufactured with these alternators. Preliminary correspondence with Remy indicates that these alternators were sold to at least two other vehicle manufacturers and several replacement equipment distributors who likely sold them under another brand name. The purpose of this EQ is to write to these companies, notify them of this defect in any vehicles they manufactured or replacement equipment they re-sold, and ensure thorough safety recalls are conducted where appropriate.