



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 11-009
Date Opened: 04/04/2011
Investigator: Ric Willard
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: Outer Tie Rod Failure

Date Closed: 02/06/2012
Reviewer: Bruce York-B

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: CHRYSLER GROUP LLC
Products: 2008-2011 Dodge Ram 2500/3500
Population: 240,000

Problem Description: Outer tie rod failure may result in loss of steering.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	12	385	397**
Crashes/Fires:	0	15	15
Injury Incidents:	0	1	1
Number of Injuries:	0	1	1
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

*Description of Other:

** Count indicates duplicate reports received by ODI and manufacturer.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Close this Preliminary Evaluation (Recall 11V-350)

Summary:

ODI received complaints regarding failing tie rod ball studs on Model Year 2008-2011 Dodge Ram 2500 and 3500 vehicles resulting in loss of steering control. Chrysler concluded that misalignment of the left (driver side) ball stud on vehicles built with the Cross Car steering linkage system could allow contact between the ball stud and the ball housing which could weaken the stud and result in fracture.

Chrysler submitted a recall notice on August 15, 2011 involving certain MY 2003-2011 Ram 2500 and Ram 3500 pickup trucks built or repaired with the Cross Car steering linkage. Chrysler will inspect, repair or realign the front end of the subject vehicles as needed. Chrysler's announcement of a safety recall on this matter addresses ODI's concerns.

The ODI reports cited above can be reviewed at www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/complaints under the following identification (ODI) numbers: 10332525, 10357937, 10366591, 10303744, 10377166, 10373240, 10343969, 10375403, 10324831, 10373546, 10370771.