



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  
**Reviewer:** Bruce York-B

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** CHRYSLER GROUP LLC  
**Products:** 2008-2011 Dodge Ram 2500/3500  
**Population:** 160,000 (Estimated)  
**Problem Description:** Outer tie rod failures may result in loss of steering.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
<b>Complaints:</b>	12	TBD	TBD
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Other*:</b>	0	TBD	TBD

\*Description of Other:

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

**Summary:**

On December 23, 2010 Chrysler recalled (10V-657) certain 2008-2011 Ram 4500 & 5500 vehicles for left (driver) side outer tie rod ball stud shear due to misalignment. The vehicles may experience a weakening and fracture of the left ball stud on the tie rod resulting in the potential loss of directional stability.

ODI is aware of 12 complaints of similar failures on 2008-2011 Ram 2500 & 3500 vehicles.

A preliminary evaluation has been opened to assess ball joint related issues on the subject vehicles. This investigation will determine if the subject vehicles have a similar steering system design that might also present a risk of ball joint failure.