



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 11-036
Date Opened: 10/11/2011
Investigator: Kareem Habib **Reviewer:** Jeff Quandt
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: Engine compartment fire

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: BMW OF NORTH AMERICA, LLC
Products: 2007-2008 Mini Cooper S
Population: 36,000 (Estimated)
Problem Description: Allegations of fire or smoke from the engine compartment.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

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

*Description of Other:

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received 12 complaints of engine compartment fire in model years 2007 and 2008 Mini Cooper S vehicles, including 5 alleging engulfing fires resulting in a total vehicle loss. Eight complaints alleged fires had occurred while the vehicles were parked with the ignition off. The complaints show an apparent increasing trend with most complaints received within the past year. In addition, ODI has reviewed field reports submitted as part of Early Warning Reporting data that relate to the alleged defect. A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the cause, scope and frequency of the alleged defect.