



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

**Investigation:** PE 13-020  
**Date Opened:** 06/06/2013  
**Investigator:** Peter Ong **Reviewer:** Scott Yon  
**Approver:** Frank Borris  
**Subject:** Inadvertent Air Bag Deployment

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** Honda (American Honda Motor Co.)  
**Products:** MY 2003-2004 Honda Odyssey  
**Population:** 320,000 (Estimated)  
**Problem Description:** The driver and/or passenger frontal air bags can inadvertently deploy (without a crash) while the vehicle is in operation (either at startup or while driving on the road).

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
<b>Complaints:</b>	6	TBD	TBD
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	3	TBD	TBD
<b>Number of Injuries:</b>	3	TBD	TBD
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Number of Fatalities:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Other*:</b>	41	TBD	TBD

\*Description of Other: Forty-one (41) additional ODI Air Bag Light illumination reports

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** Open this Preliminary Evaluation (PE)

### Summary:

ODI has received six consumer complaints on model year (MY) 2003-2004 Honda Odyssey vehicles from owners alleging their frontal air bags suddenly deployed without a crash. Three of the six owners also alleged that they sustained injury from the incident. All six owners stated that their vehicles were being operated on the roadway when the air bag deployment occurred. In addition, ODI has received an additional 41 consumer complaints alleging the vehicle's air bag warning light illuminated.

During investigation EA12-001, which involved inadvertent air bag deployments in Chrysler products, the electronic air bag module supplier (TRW) reported that certain MY 2003-2004 Honda Odyssey vehicles use the same application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC) component within the airbag control module. In EA12-001, the ASIC was determined to fail due to an electrical over stress condition (possibly caused by a transient voltage spike) resulting in an inadvertent air bag deployment.

A preliminary evaluation has been opened to investigate the alleged defect.

The ODI reports cited above can be reviewed at <http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/owners/SearchNHTSAID> under the following identification (ODI) numbers: 10458552, 10376403, 10344378, 10474448, 10505430, 10471555

8020672, 10016720, 10018211, 10034160, 10037963, 10036948, 10040407, 10042837, 10049129, 10057848,

10060151, 10063623, 10081505, 10082428, 10083495, 10093003, 10093796, 10120208, 10124443, 10125082,  
10131682, 10134916, 10138141, 10150491, 10155391, 10192789, 10235036, 10236532, 10236532, 10238563,  
10263875, 10324365, 10336973, 10336973, 10356998, 10357049, 10376446, 10395734, 10409848, 10456658,  
10504568