



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: DP 14-001
Prompted by: Defect Petition
Date Opened: 07/22/2014
Investigator: Peter Ong
Approver: Stephen Ridella
Subject: Passenger Air Bag OCS Algorithm

Date Closed: 03/07/2017
Reviewer: Scott Yon

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: General Motors LLC
Products: MY 2008 Chevrolet Impala
Population: 320,000 (Estimated)

Problem Description: The Petitioner alleges that the model year 2008 Chevrolet Impala passenger air bag occupant classification system failed to operate properly during a frontal impact and inaccurately suppressed the deployment of the passenger frontal air bag during a crash.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	1	1	1**
Crashes/Fires:	1	1	1**
Injury Incidents:	1	1	1**
Number of Injuries:	2	2	2**
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0

** Total eliminates duplicates received by ODI and manufacturer.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This petition is denied

Summary:

The Agency received a petition on November 14, 2013 requesting an investigation into the "operation of the passenger air bag Occupant Classification System (OCS) software logic and algorithm". The petitioner states that due to this alleged defect, the passenger air bag may be suppressed at point of impact and not provided the occupant protection as needed in a crash.

On July 22, 2014, NHTSA opened DP14-001 to further review the crash event and perform a more comprehensive search and analysis of the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). The Agency also collected manufacturers reports on the alleged OCS issue on the subject Impala vehicles and other GM and non-GM peer vehicles.

After examination of the petition and available data relating to the subject vehicle's OCS and the specific crash incident where the OCS allegedly failed to operate properly, NHTSA did not identify an issue with the MY2008 Impala involved in the subject crash, nor has it identified a safety-related defect trend existing in the OCS used in the MY 2006-2008 Impala vehicles, in GM peer vehicles or in other non-GM peer vehicles.

NHTSA has concluded that further expenditure of the agency's investigative resources is not warranted. The agency accordingly has denied the petition. However, the agency will take further action if warranted by changing future circumstances.

The official petition denial, as published in the Federal Register, is available in the document file for this defect petition.

The single complaint and crash noted in the Failure Report above is the petitioner's VOQ (10568388) and can be

reviewed online at <http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/owners/SearchNHTSAID>.