U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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Investigation: EQ 15-004
Prompted by:
Date Opened: 03/20/2015 **Date Closed:** 04/24/2015
Investigator: Cynthia Glass
Approver: Jennifer Timian
Subject: The fuel pump module may overheat

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: UCI-FRAM Group, Airtex LLP
Products: Airtex Products Fuel Pump
Population: 3,649

Problem Description: The electrical terminals of the fuel pump module supplied by Airtex Products, LLC may overheat, allowing the fuel pump to leak fuel, causing the vehicle to stall and increasing the risk of a vehicle crash or fire.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This EQ investigation is closed.

Summary:

The closing report is attached.

EQ 15-004: The Fuel Pump's Electrical Terminal May Overheat
Closing Report

BACKGROUND

In a Part 573 Safety Recall Report dated September 9, 2014, General Motors, LLC (GM) notified the NHTSA that it decided a defect exists in certain model year (MY) 2004-2007 Cadillac CTS-V vehicles manufactured October 6, 2003, to March 15, 2007, and MY 2006-2007 Cadillac STS-V vehicles manufactured June 23, 2005, to March 15, 2007. In the affected vehicles, the electrical terminals of the fuel pump module may overheat resulting in melting of the flange material. If the flange melts, a hole may be created allowing the fuel pump to leak fuel, causing the vehicle to stall, and increasing the risk of a vehicle crash. Additionally, leaking fuel in the presence of an ignition source increases the risk of a fire. This matter was assigned recall number 14V-542.

In their 573 Defect Notification Report, GM identified Airtex Products, LP (Airtex) as one of its suppliers for the fuel pump module. On March 20, 2015, the Recall Management Division (RMD) opened this Equipment Query (EQ) Investigation in order to write to Airtex to make them aware of GM's defect decision and to remind them of their responsibilities under Federal Law as an equipment manufacturer. The investigation also sought to obtain information as to the sale and distribution of the fuel pump modules Airtex supplied to GM so that additional recall decisions could be made and the associated campaigns could be promptly conducted should this equipment have been sold to more than just GM for use as original equipment on its vehicles.

AIRTEX PRODUCTS' RESPONSE

In a letter dated April 10, 2015, Airtex responded to the information request letter and reported that Airtex assembled these modules on behalf of Inergy Automotive Systems, LLC pursuant to specifications established by GM and Inergy arranged for the delivery of substantially all of the component parts to Airtex's facility in Fairfield, Illinois. Airtex shipped the completed fuel pump modules to Inergy which, in turn, installed the modules in a fuel tank. The tank assemblies were then shipped to GM for installation on new vehicles. In addition, Airtex assembled 299 modules that it delivered to Fapco, Inc. and these modules were re-packaged and delivered to GM dealers for use as replacements. All of the 3,649 fuel pump modules that Airtex assembled were shipped to either Inergy or Fapco. Airtex did not sell or ship these fuel pump modules to any other customer and a recall by Airtex is not warranted. Airtex's response letter is attached.

RECALL MANAGEMENT DIVISION ACTION

All vehicle and motor vehicle equipment manufacturers who purchased the subject fuel pump modules have been identified and have either filed recall reports and are conducting recalls, or have provided responses explaining why they are not conducting recalls. Accordingly, this equipment query investigation is closed. Copies of documents associated with this investigation can be found in this Equipment Query's document repository by clicking the "Associated Documents" button.

April 10, 2015

VIA EMAIL – (cynthia.glass@dot.gov)
Cynthia Glass
U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation
12200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Safety Recall 14V-542 relating to certain Cadillac CTS-V and STS-V Vehicles
Equipment Query Investigation 15-004

Dear Ms. Glass:

This letter responds to the referenced equipment query investigation No. 15-004.

General Motors correctly identified Airtex as one of its suppliers for the fuel pump modules that are the subject of GM's recall. A review of Airtex's records shows that between August 25, 2005 and July 10, 2008, Airtex assembled 3,350 modules that it understands were used in model year 2005 to 2008 Cadillac CTS-V and STS V vehicles.

Airtex assembled these modules on behalf of Inergy Automotive Systems, LLC pursuant to specifications established by GM. Inergy arranged for the delivery of substantially all of the component parts to Airtex's facility in Fairfield, Illinois. (Airtex manufactured two components used in the module, including a regulator plug and a venturi sleeve.) Airtex shipped the completed fuel pump modules to Inergy which, in turn, installed the modules in a fuel tank. The tank assemblies were then shipped to GM for installation on new vehicles. In addition, Airtex assembled 299 modules that it delivered to Fapco, Inc. Airtex understands that these modules were, in turn. re-packaged and delivered to GM dealers for use as replacements.

All of the 3,649 fuel pump modules that Airtex assembled were shipped to either Inergy or Fapco. Airtex did not sell or ship these fuel pump modules to any other customer. Accordingly, because the vehicle manufacturer (GM) has filed a Part 573 defect report, pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 573.3(e), Airtex does not believe it has any obligation to file a separate defect report.

We hope you find this information of assistance in your investigation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any other questions.

Very truly yours,



Keith Zar

Vice President
Airtex Products, LP

Vice President
General Counsel
UCI-FRAM AutoBrands