



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 15-024
Date Opened: 06/18/2015
Investigator: Stephen Mchenry **Reviewer:** Jeff Quandt
Approver: Jennifer Timian
Subject: Brake Power Assist Failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Chrysler (FCA US LLC)
Products: 2013 Dodge Dart
Population: 121,000 (Estimated)

Problem Description: The brake pedal may become hard to depress suddenly and vehicle stopping distance may unexpectedly increase.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	18	TBD	TBD
Crashes/Fires:	0	TBD	TBD
Injury Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Injuries:	0	TBD	TBD
Fatality Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Fatalities:	0	TBD	TBD

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Summary:

ODI has received 18 complaints (VOQs) alleging that the brake pedal can suddenly become hard to depress and that the vehicle's braking distance has unexpectedly increased on model year 2013 Dodge Dart vehicles. The complaints include the following information: 1) several drivers report hearing a pop noise or an air hissing noise when applying the brake pedal, followed by a hard pedal feel and reduced brake effectiveness; 2) some drivers allege that they had to use the parking brake to stop the vehicle; and 3) some owners indicate that the brake booster and/or master cylinder were replaced to correct the problem.

A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the scope, frequency, and safety-related consequence of the alleged defect.

The VOQs associated with the opening of this investigation are: 10723889, 10721220, 10715993, 10713690, 10695212, 10668965, 10660526, 10659435, 10638228, 10619184, 10610512, 10597398, 10583883, 10569142, 10565689, 10556239, 10533514, and 10533008.