



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: DP 18-001
Prompted by:
Date Opened: 05/23/2018
Investigator: Matthew Martens **Reviewer:** Jeff Quandt
Approver: Stephen Ridella
Subject: Fuel Tank Retention Failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Isuzu Technical Center of America, Inc., Honda (American Honda Motor Co.)
Products: Certain 2001-04 Isuzu Rodeo, Isuzu Axiom and Honda Passport
Population: 47,000 (Estimated)
Problem Description: Corrosion failures of the fuel tank shield or shield/tank mounts resulting in fuel tank detachment from the vehicle.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	3	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
Other*:	23	TBD	TBD

***Description of Other:** Complaints citing concerns with fuel tank or tank shield retention integrity that do not involve allegations of tank detachment from the vehicle.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Defect Petition has been opened.

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received a petition requesting investigation of an alleged defect that could result in fuel tank detachment from the vehicle (VOQ 11084098). The petitioner submitted a complaint in April 2018 reporting corrosion failure of the fuel tank shield of a 2004 Isuzu Rodeo vehicle in July 2017. The failure allegedly resulted in the front of the fuel tank dropping 5 to 6 inches from the vehicle. In support of his request, the Petitioner cited other complaints related to corrosion of structural or suspension components in 2004 Isuzu Rodeo vehicles, a recall conducted in 2013 to address a corrosion related defect in rear suspension components in certain 2003-2004 Isuzu Rodeo and Axiom vehicles and 2003 Rodeo Sport vehicles (NHTSA Recall No. 13V-547), and a complaint alleging corrosion failure of the tank shield in a 2001 Isuzu Rodeo (VOQ 10992150 cited by the Petitioner in VOQ 11091788).

The 2004 Isuzu Rodeo is equipped with a 19.5 gallon capacity plastic fuel tank. The lower surface of the tank is covered by a metal shield, which serves the dual purpose of protecting the tank and securing the tank to the vehicle. The tank is secured to the shield by two mounting straps and the shield is attached to the vehicle chassis by six mounting bolts. The fuel tank and shield used in 2004 Isuzu Rodeo vehicles are used in 2001-04 Isuzu Rodeo, 2002-04 Isuzu Axiom and 2001-02 Honda Passport vehicles. ODI has identified two additional VOQs alleging incidents of fuel tank detachment in these vehicles, a November 2012 failure in a 2001 Isuzu Rodeo (VOQ 10486109) and a June 2011 failure in a 2001 Honda Passport vehicle (VOQ 10532845). In addition, ODI has identified 23 other VOQs alleging corrosion of the shield and/or shield mounts causing concerns with the integrity of the tank retention

system.

ODI will evaluate the petition, including the information provided by the Petitioner and any other pertinent information and make a grant or deny decision in this matter.

In addition to the VOQ numbers referenced above, the following VOQ numbers are associated with this opening resume and can be view at www.nhtsa.gov:

10992150, 10845523, 10824247, 10597729, 10594770, 10558538, 10550870, 10544001, 10436344, 10424477, 10399930, 10393933, 10393246, 10386578, 10374811, 10356153, 10339599, 10329133, 10322095, 10316008, 10296208, 10283640, 10275653

The following VOQs are cited by the Petitioner, but are not related to fuel tank retention and not counted in this resume:

10649039,10628540,10597006, 10542683, 10514034