



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 20-018
Date Opened: 11/05/2020
Investigator: Matthew Martens **Reviewer:** Jeff Quandt
Approver: Stephen Ridella
Subject: Fuel Tank Flange Leak

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: LAND ROVER
Products: 2010-2011 Land Rover LR4 and Range Rover Sport
Population: 36,000 (Estimated)
Problem Description: The tank flange may crack and leak pressurized fuel when the vehicle is running. Owners may be alerted to the problem by detecting a fuel odor or identifying a fuel leak from the rear of the vehicle.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	6	5	11
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	200	200

*Description of Other: Warranty claims related to the alleged defect

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open a Preliminary Evaluation.

Summary:

The subject vehicles are model year (MY) 2010 through 2011 Land Rover LR4 (L319) and Range Rover Sport (L320) vehicles equipped with fuel tank flange part number AH229039AB. The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received six consumer complaints (VOQs) alleging fuel leakage from cracked tank flanges in the subject vehicles. In addition, ODI identified 5 field reports and 200 warranty claims related to the alleged defect in the subject vehicles as part of the peer vehicle field data analysis in Recall Query RQ19-004 regarding tank flange leaks in MY 2010 through 2012 Jaguar XF vehicles. In 2013 Jaguar Land Rover LLC (JLR) submitted a foreign recall report related to the alleged defect in the subject vehicles (Foreign Recall 13F-098). The foreign recall was conducted in eight Middle East countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen).

In response to ODI's information request letter for RQ19-004, JLR indicated that a modified fuel tank flange was implemented as a running change in MY 2011 production of the subject vehicles. Internal ribbing was added to the modified flanges, which increased the strength and creep resistance of the parts in the areas where cracking had been observed. Tank flanges with internal ribbing are identified by part numbers AH229039AC and AH229039AD. The modified flanges were used in approximately 27,882 MY 2011 through 2015 LR4 vehicles and 32,822 MY 2011 through 2013 Range Rover Sport vehicles (peer vehicles). A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the failure rate and severity of the fuel tank flange cracking condition in subject and peer vehicles sold in the United States.

The following VOQ numbers are associated with this opening resume: 11280630, 11220260, 11155570, 11139276, 11132102, 11098107.