



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

## ODI RESUME

**Investigation:** PE 10-010  
**Date Opened:** 03/30/2010  
**Principal Investigator:** Chris Lash  
**Subject:** Brake line failure due to corrosion

### MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** GENERAL MOTORS CORP.  
**Products:** MY1999-2003 GM C/K Pickups and SUVs  
**Population:** 6,000,000 (Estimated)  
**Problem Description:** Brake line corrosion allegedly can result in rupture during brake application, resulting in sudden loss of brake effectiveness.

### FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
<b>Complaints:</b>	110	TBD	TBD
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	3	TBD	TBD
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	TBD	TBD

### ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

**Summary:**

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) received a defect petition on March 2, 2010, requesting the investigation of model year (MY) 2003 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD 4WD pickup trucks for corrosion failures of the vehicle brake lines. The petitioner alleged a sudden loss of brake effectiveness and extended stopping distance after a corroded brake burst during a brake application. ODI has received 110 owner complaints for MY 1999 through 2003 Chevrolet and GMC C/K series pickup trucks and sport utility vehicles, including 3 involving MY 2003 2500 series heavy-duty pickup trucks. The complaints allege the loss of braking effectiveness due to brake line rupture because of corrosion. In 37 of these complaints, the brake line failure was confirmed by a dealer inspection. Three complaints allege that corroded brake line failure resulted in a crash. A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to determine the frequency, scope and safety consequences of the alleged defect in the subject vehicles.