



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

**Investigation:** PE 14-016  
**Date Opened:** 06/11/2014  
**Investigator:** Peter Ong  
**Approver:** Frank Borris  
**Subject:** Air Bag Inflator Rupture  
**Reviewer:** Scott Yon

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** Takata Corporation, Honda (American Honda Motor Co.), Nissan North America, Inc., Mazda Motor Corp., Chrysler Group LLC, Toyota Motor Corporation  
**Products:** MY 2002-2006 models with air bag modules supplied by Takata  
**Population:** 1,092,000 (Estimated)  
**Problem Description:** During the course of 6 air bag inflations/deployments in FL and PR, the frontal driver or passenger air bag inflator did not function properly and ruptured.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
<b>Complaints:</b>	3	TBD	TBD
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	3	TBD	TBD
<b>Number of Injuries:</b>	3	TBD	TBD
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Number of Fatalities:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Other*:</b>	3	TBD	TBD

\*Description of Other: 2 incidents provided by the air bag supplier and one provided by OEM

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** Open this Preliminary Evaluation (PE)

### Summary:

In August 2013, the Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) received a complaint of a driver's bag inflator rupture in a model year (MY) 2005 Honda Civic (VOQ 10537899). In March 2014, ODI received a VOQ alleging a passenger's bag rupture on a MY 2003 Toyota Corolla (VOQ 10568848). In April 2014, ODI received a third VOQ alleging a driver's bag rupture in a MY 2005 Mazda 6 (VOQ 1058224). There were three alleged injuries from these three incidents and all appeared to be minor in nature.

ODI discussed these incidents with TK Holdings, Inc. (Takata), the supplier of airbags involved and with the affected vehicle manufacturers. In the course of its review, Takata identified two other incidents, one involving a passenger bag rupture on a MY 2004 Nissan Sentra vehicle, and another a driver's bag rupture on a MY 2006 Dodge Charger vehicle. Toyota also provided another passenger's bag rupture on a MY 2002 Toyota Corolla. Of note, all six incidents occurred in a high absolute humidity climate (Florida and Puerto Rico.)

By way of background, several manufacturers in recent years have conducted safety recalls of vehicles for rupturing airbags. In calendar years 2008 through 2011, Honda conducted a series of recalls concerning driver's bag inflator ruptures on various MY 2001 through 2004 vehicles. In calendar year 2013, Honda, along with Toyota, BMW, Nissan and Mazda, initiated safety recalls to address passenger bag ruptures in certain MY 2001 through 2004 models. None of these recalls were regional in nature or attributable to atmospheric conditions in field use.

ODI is opening this investigation in order to collect all known facts from the supplier and the vehicle manufacturers that it believes may have manufactured vehicles equipped with inflators produced during the same period as those that have demonstrated rupture events in the field.

The ODI reports cited above can be reviewed online at <http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/owners/SearchNHTSAID> under the following identification numbers:

10537899, 10568848, 10585224