



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

## Defects Assessment Resume

**Issue:** IE 07-080  
**Prompted by:** COMPLAINTS  
**Date Opened:** 08/03/2007  
**Investigator:** Donovan Green  
**EWR Related:** Yes  
**Role:** ASSIST **Data Type:** AGGREGATE  
**Subject:** AIR BAG NON-DEPLOYMENT

### MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** General Motors LLC  
**Products:** 2003 THRU 2006 CHEVY COBALT AND SATURN ION  
**Population:** 677,666  
**Problem Description:** DRIVER AND PASSENGER SIDE FRONTAL AIRBAGS FAIL TO DEPLOY DURING CRASH EVENTS WHERE INJURY SEVERITY, CDR DATA, STRUCTURAL DEFORMATION AND DEATHS SUGGEST THE AIRBAGS SHOULD HAVE DEPLOYED.

### FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI
<b>Complaints:</b>	29
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	11
<b>Number of Injuries:</b>	11
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	29
<b>Number of Fatalities:</b>	4
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	3
<b>Other*:</b>	14

\*Description of Other: FIELD REPORTS & SCI INVESTIGATION

### ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** ISSUE EVALUATION

**Summary:**

ODI HAS RECEIVED OVER 29 CONSUMER COMPLAINTS ON THIS SUBJECT. THE EARLIEST COMPLAINTS WERE RECEIVED IN 2003. APPROXIMATELY EIGHT OF THESE COMPLAINTS ARRIVED SINCE MAY 2006. VEHICLES INVOLVED FALL BETWEEN 3600 AND 49,900 MILES AT THE TIME OF FAILURE. MOST OF THE CONSUMER COMPLAINTS CLAIM THAT THEIR SUBJECT VEHICLES WERE IN A SUBSTANTIAL COLLISION AT THE TIME OF FAILURE (PRE-CRASH SPEED > 30 MPH). IN ADDITION, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT IN AT LEAST 6 OF THE MORE SERIOUS CASES (4 CASES WITH AT LEAST ONE FATALITY AND 2 CASES WITH SERIOUS INJURIES), THE VEHICLE VEERED OF THE IMPROVED ROAD AND LATER COLLIDED WITH SOME NATURAL OBJECT (I.E. SMALL BOULDER, TREE, OR DITCH).