

Safety Research Report Index - European Sudden Acceleration

A. BACKGROUND

1. "Inquiry on Auto Acceleration Expanded by U.S.," New York Times, 2/23/86.
2. "Cars That Speed Up Mysteriously Spark Bitter Dispute Over Cause," Wall Street Journal, 9/3/86.
3. "NHTSA Stonewall" & "NHTSA Accused of 'Do-Nothing' Investigations; 'Driver Error' Blamed for GM, Ford Runaway Cars," FuelLine, 11/86.
4. "Sudden Acceleration Puts NHTSA to 15-Year Test," Automotive News, 2/16/87.
5. "Runaway Cars," series of articles, Detroit News, 12/13/87-12/17/87.
6. "Runaway Cars?" Newsday, 7/26/88.
7. "1982-88 Caddys Called Runaways," Automotive News, 1/30/89.
8. "NHTSA Announces Results of 'Sudden Acceleration' Study," DOT Press Release, 3/7/89.
9. "Some Cars' Sudden Acceleration is Tied in U.S. Study to Pedal Misapplication," Wall Street Journal, 3/8/89.
10. "Sudden Acceleration Linked to Driver Pedal Misapplication," IIHS Status Report, 4/22/89.
11. "Car Plows into Park, Killing 3 & Injuring Dozens," New York Times, 4/24/92.
12. "Car Kills Woman At Market," Post-Standard, 5/15/92.
13. "'Sudden Acceleration' May Be the Cause of Recent Accidents...," Corporate Crime Reporter, 5/25/92.
14. IMPACT & Lemon Times articles, 1984-1992.

B. ATTORNEYS

C. EXPERTS

D. NHTSA

1. List of sudden acceleration recalls.
2. Representative John Dingell to NHTSA re: sudden acceleration, 1/19/88; NHTSA response, 4/4/88. (with Attachment B- JAMA Announcement; Attachment E-Chronology of NHTSA's Actions)

E. TECHNICAL MATERIAL

1. R.H. Espeland et al., NHTSA, "Investigation Of Electromagnetic Interference Effects On Motor Vehicle Electronic Control And Safety Devices," 10/75.
2. R.L. Ruhl, Ruhl & Associates, "Sudden Acceleration Fact Sheet," circa 1987.
3. M. Gunnerhed, Swedish Defence Research Establishment, "Risk Assessment of Cruise Control," 5/88.
4. P. Marriner & J. Granery, Transport Canada, "Investigation of 'Sudden Acceleration' Incidents," 12/88.
5. K. Carlsen, et al., Boeing, "Sneak analysis, Boeing's Electrical Systems Engineering Quality Program Applied to the Automotive Industry," 8/89.
6. NHTSA, "Examination of Sudden Acceleration," 1/89.
7. W. Rosenbluth, Automotive Systems Analysis, "Pursuing Unwanted Acceleration - Myths, Vapors & Verification," 7/90.
8. B. Brown, Mechanical Damage Inspections, "Fuel Injection Systems," 12/4/91.

F. BMW BACKGROUND

1. "BMW Is Recalling 22,850 2-Door Coupes For Accelerator Defect," Wall Street Journal, 1985.

G. NHTSA INVESTIGATIONS OF BMW

1. PE91-001: 1987-8 BMW 3, 6, & 7 Series with Motronic M1.1 fuel-injection systems
 - a. CAS to NHTSA, 6/25/86; NHTSA response, 7/17/86.
 - b. CAS to NHTSA, 7/21/86; NHTSA response, 8/6/86.
 - c. CAS to NHTSA, 9/10/86; NHTSA response, 10/10/86.
 - d. CAS to NHTSA, 12/13/89; CAS follow-up 3/23/90 & 4/9/90; NHTSA response, 5/31/90; CAS follow-up, 6/4/90.
 - e. CAS to NHTSA, 4/7/90; NHTSA response, 7/16/90.
 - f. CAS to NHTSA, 8/28/90; NHTSA response, 10/5/90.
 - g. Opening resume, 10/3/90.
 - h. NHTSA to BMW, 10/5/90.
 - i. BMW response, 12/14/90. (selected attachments)
 - j. Closing resume, 1/28/91.

H. BMW RECALLS

1. Recall 85V-058: 1984 BMW 318i, 4/30/85.
2. Recall 88V-031: 1988 BMW 325iX with manual transmission, 3/4/88.
3. Recall 89V-005: 1988-89 BMW 750iL, 1/12/89.
4. Recall 91V-029: 1991 BMW 525i & 525iA, 2/14/91.
5. Recall 91V-219: 1991-92 BMW 318i, 318iS & 318iC, 12/16/91.
6. Recall 92V-101: 1991 BMW 535i, 535iA, 735iA & 735iLA, 7/8/92.
7. Recall 94V-037: 1992-94 BMW 318i & 318iS, 2/15/94.

I. BMW INTERNAL MEMORANDA

1. Service Manager to BMW NA, 1/2/87.
2. Inter-branch memo, 3/4/87, 3/26/87, 4/6/87, 5/7/87.
3. Inter-branch memo, 5/13/87.
4. Inter-branch memo, 5/14/87.

J. MERCEDES BACKGROUND

1. "Mercedes Reports Safety Findings," AutoWeek, 12/15/86.
2. "Consumer Groups Seek Mercedes-Benz Probe," UPI, 5/26/87.
3. "Mercedes Inquiry Is Enlarged," New York Times, 7/26/88.
4. "55 Complaints Lead U.S. to Consider Probe of Mercedes for Flaw," Los Angeles Times, 10/25/87.
5. "Agency Renews Probe of Mercedes 300E," Los Angeles Times, 11/3/87.
6. "Probe of Alleged Flaw in Mercedes Widened," Los Angeles Times, 7/26/88.
7. "Wild Car in Manhattan Hits 5 People, Killing Girl," New York Times, 5/3/90.
8. "Mercedes Acceleration Investigation Expands," New York Times, 5/3/90.
9. Lemon Times article, 1988.

K. NHTSA INVESTIGATIONS OF MERCEDES

1. IR83-48/EA84-003: 1980 Mercedes 450SEL, 450SLC, 450SL, 1982 Mercedes 300D Turbo, 1978-9 Mercedes 450SL, 450 SEL, & 450 SL.
 - a. NHTSA to MBNA, 1/4/82; MBNA response, 1/20/82.
 - b. CAS to NHTSA, Defect Petition, 3/14/83; NHTSA response, 4/13/83.
 - c. NHTSA to MBNA, 4/7/83.
 - d. MBNA response, 5/11/83.
 - e. NHTSA to MBNA, 11/15/83.
 - f. MBNA response, 12/15/83.
2. PE87-001: 1986 Mercedes 300E
 - a. CAS to NHTSA, Defect Petition, 6/26/86 & 8/26/86; NHTSA response, Denial, 9/12/86.
 - b. CAS to NHTSA, Defect Petition, 9/11/86; NHTSA response, open investigation, 10/8/86.
 - c. NHTSA to MBNA, 10/8/86.
 - d. CAS to NHTSA, Request to expand investigation, 10/22/86; NHTSA response, denial of request, 11/5/86.
 - e. NHTSA memorandum re: 11/12/86 meeting with MBNA, 11/25/86.
 - f. MBNA response, 12/1/86. (selected attachments)
 - g. MBNA supplement, 12/8/86. (with attachments)
 - h. Closing resume, 1/14/87.
3. DP87-019/EA88-003: 1984-87 Mercedes with gas engines & automatic transmissions
DP88-013/EA88-034: Expansion of investigation beyond 300E
 - a. CAS to NHTSA, Defect Petition, 5/20/87; NHTSA response, 6/1/87.
 - b. CAS to NHTSA, Defect Petition, 6/8/87; Follow-up, 7/20/87, 8/3/87, & 10/28/87.
 - c. MBNA to NHTSA, regarding CAS petition, 6/3/87.
 - d. NHTSA to MBNA, 7/1/87.
 - e. MBNA response, 8/7/87.
 - f. NHTSA to CAS, Petition granted, 10/29/87.
 - g. NHTSA to MBNA, 11/30/87.
 - h. MBNA response, 1/19/88 (with attachments).
 - i. CAS to NHTSA, Request to expand investigation, 3/9/88. (DP88-013)
 - j. NHTSA response, DP88-013 granted, 7/14/88.
 - k. Opening resume, EA88-034, 7/15/88.
 - l. MBNA to NHTSA, 3/6/90. (with attachments)
 - m. EA88-003 Closing resume & report, 7/31/90.
 - n. EA88-034 Closing report, 7/31/90.

L. MERCEDES RECALLS

1. Recall 73-0225: 1973-74 Mercedes 450SL/SLC, 11/16/73.
2. Recall 74-0013: 1974 Mercedes 450 SE/SEL, 1/16/74.
3. Recall 76-0027: 1976 Mercedes 300D, 280, 280C, 280S, 450 SE, SEL, SL & SLC, 2/11/76.
4. Recall 77-0027: 1973-76 Mercedes 450SL/SLC, 2/22/77.
6. Recall 84V-007: 1977-80 Mercedes 450 models, 1/23/84.
7. Recall 87V-104: 1984-86 190 Series, 7/17/87.
8. Recall 94V-091: 1994 C220 Series, 5/4/94.

M. CENTER FOR AUTO SAFETY (MERCEDES)

1. CAS to NHTSA, Defect Petition, 1/11/78; NHTSA response, 2/8/78.
2. Press release, CAS calls for investigation, 5/26/87.
3. Press release, Reports increase 700%, 6/8/87.
4. Press release, NHTSA grants CAS petition, 11/2/87.
5. Press release, NHTSA to investigate Mercedes, 7/25/88.

N. MERCEDES INTERNAL DOCUMENTS

1. Mercedes Technical Service Bulletins, 11/82-9/83.
2. MBNA to Consumer, 6/8/88.
3. MBNA mailgram to Sales Manager, 7/26/88.

O. MERCEDES TECHNICAL MATERIALS

1. Reconstruction analysis, Holcomb Forensic Engineering, 9/24/87.
2. Reconstruction analysis, Alan D. Orringer, 3/11/89.

P. CENTER FOR AUTO SAFETY (VOLVO)

1. CAS to NHTSA, 7/8/87; NHTSA response, 7/28/87.

Q. NHTSA INVESTIGATIONS OF VOLVO

1. PE86-050: All 1980-86 Volvo vehicles
 - a. NHTSA to Volvo, 4/29/86.
 - b. CAS to NHTSA, 5/21/86; NHTSA response, 6/6/86.
 - c. Volvo response to NHTSA, 7/7/86.
 - d. Memorandum re: NHTSA/Volvo meeting, 9/24/86.
 - e. Closing resume, 10/1/86.

R. VOLVO RECALLS

1. Recall 86V-129: 1985-6 Volvo 240 series, 9/9/86.
2. Recall audit A87-007: 1985-86 Volvo 240 on recall 86V-126 for throttle cable, 8/12/87.
3. Recall 88V-064: 1986-87 Volvo 240 series, 4/11/88.
4. Recall 93V-074: 1993 Volvo 940 Turbo, 2/28/93.
5. Recall 94V-173: 1994 Volvo 950 Turbo, 9/8/94.