

Safety Research Report Index - Ford 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. FORD BACKGROUND

1. "1.4 Million Ford Cars Unsafe, Group Claims," Miami Herald, 9/3/85.
2. "Suspected Ford Flaw Studied," Associated Press, 9/23/85.
3. "Fair Lawn Man Gets \$1000 Settlement; Acceleration Surges Plague Car Owners," Bergen Record, 12/8/85.
4. "Woman Smashes Car Into Garage & Husband," Pasco Times, circa 1985.
5. "Surge Purge Urged," Popular Mechanics, 1/86.
6. "Make of Car Spurs Inquest into Accident," City & State, 3/12/86.

7. "Tale of a Runaway Car," The Record, 5/12/86.
8. "Groups Seek Recall of Fords That Accelerate Unexpectedly," Tampa Tribune, 11/21/86.
9. "Agency to Study Possible Surging of Ford Engines," Wall Street Journal, 6/15/87.
10. "Van Crash Probe Disputes Reports From Witnesses" & "Inspection Set of Van Involved in Fatal Accident," State Journal Register, 6/90.
11. "Spector of Runaway & Other Cars Doesn't Fade," Courier Times, 7/9/90.
12. "Family Says Victim Had Complained Of Car" The Boston Globe, 3/15/94.
13. Lemon Times articles.

G. CENTER FOR AUTO SAFETY

1. NHTSA to CAS re: test results, 9/7/78.
2. CAS-NHTSA correspondence re: Ford Aerostar, 1990-91.
3. Press Release, Runaway Aerostar, 6/21/90.

H. NHTSA INVESTIGATIONS

1. DP87-003/PE 85-065/EA87-021: 1983-86 Ford full & mid-sized Cars With 3.8 & 5.0 L fuel-injected engines
 - a. CAS petition & news release, 8/30/85 & 9/3/85.
 - b. CAS to NHTSA on investigation opening & news release, 9/23/85.
 - c. NHTSA to Ford, 9/30/85.
 - d. Ford response, 11/21/85. (selected attachments)
 - e. CAS to NHTSA, 1/21/86.
 - f. CAS to NHTSA, 3/28/86.
 - g. CAS to NHTSA, 4/30/86; NHTSA response, 5/15/86.
 - h. Closing Resume, 8/5/86.
 - i. CAS & Florida PIRG Petition to open new investigation, 11/20/86; Press release, 11/20/86.
 - j. NHTSA to Ford, 12/31/86
 - k. Ford response, 3/13/87.
 - l. NHTSA to Ford, 9/22/87
 - m. Ford response, 11/10/87
 - n. Ford supplement, 2/8/88 with attachments:
 - I-B Lawsuits
 - II-A Component failures that increase engine speed
 - III Part Sales
 - V Dealer Bulletins
 - o. CAS to NHTSA, 4/25/88; NHTSA response, 5/24/88.
 - p. CAS to NHTSA, request to expand investigation, 5/3/88.
 - q. CAS to NHTSA, 12/15/88 & 1/3/89; NHTSA response, 2/1/89.
 - r. Closing report, 3/16/89.
2. PE88-097: 1987-88 Ford Thunderbird & Mercury Cougar floor mat interference
 - a. Opening resume, 8/31/88.
 - b. NHTSA to Ford, 9/2/88; Ford response, attachment, 10/28/88.
 - c. Closing resume, 12/2/88.

3. PE89-118/EA89-037: 1986-87 Ford Tempo, Topaz, Mustang, & Capri Cruise Control
 - a. Opening resume, 4/19/89.
 - b. NHTSA to Ford, 5/8/89.
 - c. Ford response, 6/30/89.
 - d. Ford supplement, 7/25/89.
 - e. Ford amends response, 8/31/89.
 - f. Upgrade resume, 9/2/89 & Opening resume, 9/6/89.
 - g. NHTSA to Ford, 9/15/89.
 - h. Ford response, 11/10/89.
 - i. Ford supplement, 1/25/90.
 - j. CAS to NHTSA, 7/6/90, 7/23/90 & 7/26/90; NHTSA to CAS, 8/20/90.
 - k. Closing report, 11/30/90.
4. PE90-001/EA90-009: 1988-89 Mercury Cougar & Ford Thunderbird Throttle Malfunction
 - a. Opening resume, 10/4/89.
 - b. NHTSA to Ford, 10/12/89.
 - c. Ford response, 11/21/89.
 - d. Ford supplement, 12/18/89.
 - e. Upgrade resume, 2/2/90 & Opening resume, 2/8/90.
 - f. NHTSA to Ford, 2/21/90.
 - g. CAS to NHTSA, with attachment, 2/15/90; NHTSA response, 3/9/90.
 - h. CAS to NHTSA, 4/10/90; NHTSA response, 5/8/90.
 - i. Ford to NHTSA, 6/11/90.
 - j. Closing report, 2/28/91.
5. PE90-051: 1986-90 Light Trucks with 5.0 or 5.8 L EFI Engines & Cruise Control
 - a. Opening resume, 3/5/90.
 - b. NHTSA to Ford, 3/8/90.
 - c. Ford response, 4/25/90.
 - d. Closing resume, 5/5/90.
6. PE90-066/EA90-042: 1986-89 Ford Taurus, Mercury Sable, Ford Aerostar with 3.0 L engines & 1988 Ford Tempo/Topaz with 2.3 L engines
 - a. Opening resume, 3/27/90.
 - b. NHTSA to Ford, 4/10/90.
 - c. Ford response, 7/24/90.
 - d. Upgrade resume, 8/31/90; Opening resume, 8/31/90.
 - e. NHTSA to Ford, 9/19/90.
 - f. Ford response, 2/7/91. (selected attachments)
 - g. Ford supplement, 2/27/91.
 - h. CAS to NHTSA, 8/5/91; NHTSA response, 8/16/91.
 - i. Closing report & resume, 12/31/91.
7. PE90-019: 1986-88 Ford Taurus & Mercury Sable- Cruise Control Fails to Disengage
 - a. Opening resume, 11/27/89.
 - b. NHTSA to Ford, 11/30/89.
 - c. Ford response, 1/19/90.
 - d. Ford to NHTSA, 3/2/90. (selected attachments)
 - e. Closing resume, 3/27/90.
8. PE91-058/EA91-034/EA93-003: 1991 Ford Explorer Throttle Shaking
 - a. Opening resume, 3/6/91.
 - b. NHTSA to Ford, 3/19/91.
 - c. Ford response, 5/16/91.
 - d. Upgrade resume, 7/22/91 & Opening resume, 7/17/91.
 - e. NHTSA to Ford, 9/4/91.
 - f. Ford response, 11/8/91.
 - g. Closing report & resume, 4/10/92.
 - h. Investigation index and Opening Resume (EA93-003), 1/15/93.
 - i. NHTSA to Ford, 1/28/93.
 - j. Ford response (with selected attachments), 4/2/93.
 - k. Closing Report and Resume, 1/6/94.

9. PE91-089: 1990 Ford Mustang Stuck Throttle/High Engine Idle
 - a. Opening Resume, 6/19/91.
 - b. NHTSA to Ford, 6/25/91.
 - c. Ford response, 10/29/91.
 - d. Closing Resume, 11/26/91.

10. PE93-010/EA93-022: 1992 Ford Taurus, Sable, Continental; 1991-92 Bronco, Ecoline.
 - a. Investigation index and Opening Resume, 3/2/93.
 - b. NHTSA to Ford, 3/19/93.
 - c. Ford Response, 7/13/93.
 - d. Memo Upgrading PE93-010 to EA93-022, 7/30/93.
 - e. Opening Resume EA93-022, 7/30/93.
 - f. NHTSA to Ford, 8/8/93.
 - g. Ford Response, 11/11/93.
 - h. Ford Inter Office Technical Letter, 1993.
 - i. Ford Technical Service Bulletin, 1993.
 - j. Closing Report (with selected attachments), 8/31/94.

11. PE93-011: 1986-88 Ford Mustang Cruise Control Malfunction.
 - a. Investigation index and Opening Resume, 3/2/93.
 - b. NHTSA to Ford, 3/8/93.
 - c. Ford response, 4/30/93.
 - d. Ford Technical Service Bulletin, 1986
 - e. Closing Resume, 7/19/93.
 - f. NHTSA to Ford, request for additional testing, 8/13/93.
 - g. Ford response (with selected attachments), 2/4/94.

12. EA93-033: 1989-92 Ford Thunderbird, Cougar.
 - a. Investigation index and Opening Resume, 12/30/93.
 - b. NHTSA to Ford, 1/13/94.
 - c. Ford response (with selected attachments), 4/12/94.
 - d. NHTSA to Ford request for additional information, 5/1/94.
 - e. Ford response, 8/4/94.
 - f. Ford to NHTSA (owner notification program), 9/26/94.
 - g. Closing Report and Resume, 12/24/98

13. PE93-069/93V-160: 1993 Ford L Series.
 - a. Investigation index and Opening Resume, 7/27/93.
 - b. NHTSA to Ford, 8/13/93.
 - c. Ford Letter of Recall, 93V-160, 9/21/93.
 - d. Closing Resume, 9/30/93.

14. PE98-021: 1997 Ford F-150 Trucks.
 - a. Opening Resume, 4/1/98.
 - b. NHTSA to Ford, 4/7/98.
 - c. Ford Response, 5/15/97.

I. RECALLS

1. Recall 74-0011: 1974 Torino, Montego, Cougar, Thunderbird, Lincoln, Continental Mark IV passenger cars & Ranchero trucks with speed control, 1/11/74.
Recall 82V-0119: 1981-93 F & B Series Trucks, throttle cable clamp, 12/2/82.
2. Recall 85V-115: 1986 Lincoln Town Car, Continental, Mark VII with 5.0L EFI engines, 9/16/85.
3. Recall 85V-134: 1985 Ford Tempo & Topaz, Ford to NHTSA, 10/18/85.
4. Recall 87V-059: 1987 Medium Ford truck & bus, 4/23/87.
5. Recall 89V-159: 1990 Ford Probe with 3.0L engine, stuck throttle, 9/18/89.
6. Recall 89V-234: 1990 Ford Ranger with 4.0L engine, stuck throttle, 12/18/89.
7. Recall 90V-044: 1990 Ford Ranger with 4.0L engine, stuck throttle, 12/18/89 (Duplicate of 89V-234)
8. Recall 90V-076: 1991 Ford Escort stuck throttle, 4/12/90.
9. Recall 93V-160: 1992-93 Ford F, B, L & CF Trucks, fractured throttle return spring, 9/21/93 (Item located supra @ H13c)

J. FORD TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS

1. Driveability/Fuel/Ignition/Emissions, Technical Service Bulletin 84-25, 12/5/84.
2. Office of General Counsel memo on 1985 LTD Acceleration Accident, 4/16/85.
3. Forensic Engineering, 1984 3.8L report on evaluation of accident, circa 7/85.
4. CPPRG Speed Control, Agenda, from 8/31/89 Ford letter to NHTSA re:PE89-118, 6/3/87.
5. Speed control slip ring/brush intermittency problem, 10/6/87.
6. Powertrain Planning & Engineering Memo on Hertz Acceleration Incidents, 7/5/89.
7. Taurus Test Plan, 10/24/89.
8. "1978-85 Electronic Engine Control Systems," Technicians Reference Book, 1985.
9. "1985 Car/Truck Shop Manual: Engine/Emissions Diagnosis," 9/84. (excerpts)
10. Letters authorizing return of various EEC-IV components, 1985-6.
11. "1986 Speed Control Systems," Training Program Manual.
12. "Electronic Fuel Injection," Service Manual, 1988.