

U.S. Department Of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 205 OCT 13 PM 1:08
Office of Defects Investigation
NSA-10.01
400 7th Street SW
Washington, DC 20590

Good day,

On August 24 of this year, I filed a complaint using the NHTSA website. The website indicated a successful submission, with a confirmation number (ODI Number) 10134023.

After waiting three weeks I contacted the Vehicle Safety Information Center using email to inquire how long should a response to my complaint take. The reply indicated, "The Office of Defects Investigation will send you a copy of your complaint by postal mail within the next two weeks."

Two weeks passed so I am resubmitting all information, hopefully to expedite a response.

Here is the original information provided.

On August 18, 2005, My 1985 Honda Aspencade motorcycle, (VIN 1HFSC1), went completely dead, indicating a failure in the electrical circuit affecting ignition and instrumentation.

This occurred at a stop light, with two brief failures prior to the complete failure while the vehicle was in motion.

Accessory circuit was unaffected, audio system remained on and the clock did not reset. Two minutes later, I would have been traveling on a twisty blvd at the posted speed limit of 55mph. I can imagine what may have happened.

Turning the ignition key to the OFF position and back to the RUN position cleared the fault.

According to the service manual for this vehicle, the ignition switch is the only part that could cause this behavior.

My concerns are:

1. There is a recall on the ignition switch for the prior year of this make and model motorcycle.
2. The complete shut down of the motorcycle at any speed is very dangerous.

AD
10/18/05

I do all my repair work and I am in the process of replacing the ignition switch.

Please offer any suggestion concerning this failure mode.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Pittsburgh, Pa [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Work
University Of Pittsburgh
Department Of Neuroscience
Electrical Engineer
446 Crawford Hall
Pittsburgh, Pa 15260

[REDACTED]

Jimenez, Alberto

From: Jimenez, Alberto
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2005 10:31 AM
To: 'BUHRMAN@PITT.EDU'
Subject: Response to your internet complaint.

Mr. Buhman: Your complaint submitted via NHTSA's Web site was received on August 24, 2005. Your correspondence was received October 13, 2005 and will be added to your existing file

Information submitted by vehicle owners using Vehicle Owner's Questionnaires (VOQs) on NHTSA's Web site are automatically entered into our complaint database, and data is then available to NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation investigators for review and analysis to determine whether an investigation is warranted. Due to the volume of VOQs received and limited agency resources, NHTSA cannot respond to the submitters of these questionnaires. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused you.

The recall you are referring to may be NHTSA's recall campaign No. 84V-064000. That recall involved the 1984 Honda GL1200 motorcycle, which is the same model as your motorcycle. A review of our database relative to the ignition switch problems on 1985 Honda GL1200 (Aspencade) revealed no other complaints. The complaint database has records entered into the system since January 1, 1995 (prior years data has been purge from our database). Therefore, there is insufficient evidence to warrant opening a safety defect investigation at this time.

Sincerely,

Alberto A. Jimenez, Chief
Correspondence Research Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement