



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, DC 20590

March 4, 2009

The Honorable Timothy H. Bishop
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
3680 Route 112, Suite C
Coram, NY 11727

NVS-216 et
Ref. # 10259068

Dear Congressman Bishop:

Thank you for your correspondence dated February 12 on behalf of your constituent, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] wrote concerning the brake system problems he encountered in his recreational vehicle (RV) built on a Workhorse Chassis.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. In order for the agency to initiate an investigation, we look carefully at the body of consumer complaints and other available data to determine whether a defect may exist.

We appreciate the report you provided on behalf of [REDACTED] and the previous report he provided to our Auto Safety Hotline on October 9, 2007. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. [REDACTED] expressed his dissatisfaction with the lack of a resolution of an ongoing defect investigation that is relevant to his RV. Engineering Analysis (EA) 07-016 was opened on November 16, 2007, on model year (MY) 2000 through MY 2005 Workhorse Chassis originally equipped with Bosch brake systems. During an EA, the Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) conducts a detailed and complete analysis of the character and scope of the alleged defect. The EA may involve inspections, tests, surveys, and analyses of information obtained from the manufacturer and suppliers. ODI attempts to resolve all EAs within one year from the date they are opened, but some complex investigations require more time.



ES09-000816

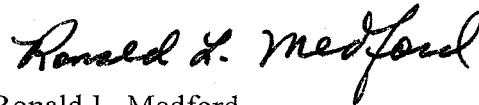
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With respect to EA07-016, ODI has conducted site visits with seven consumers who complained of brake problems in the affected vehicles. These vehicles have been instrumented to allow an in-depth analysis of the problem. Additionally, ODI has obtained engineering data from Bosch and Workhorse that has been incorporated in our test plans. We expect a resolution of our investigation by the end of March, at which time [REDACTED] will be furnished with a copy of our technical report.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions, please have your staff contact me or Mr. Daniel C. Smith, NHTSA's Associate Administrator for Enforcement, at (202) 366-3217.

Sincerely,



Ronald L. Medford
Acting Deputy Administrator

cc: Washington Office