



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire
To Report Vehicle Safety Defects
1-888-DASH-2-DOT
(1-888-327-4236)
INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100148

Date Received

15-APR-2014

Repository ☐

Reference No.

10582823

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name

Address

City

LILLIAN

State

AL

Zip Code

Daytime Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Evening Telephone Number

The information you provide will be used to identify potential safety-related defects. We may share your information with the applicable vehicle manufacturer during an investigation or recall in accordance with the routine uses described in the agency's Privacy Act notice. See 49 FR 53971 (Sep. 3, 2004).

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side

WB10318A64Z

Make

BMW

Model

R1150 R

Model Year

2004

Date Purchased

Dealer's Name and Telephone Number

Engine:

No: Cylinders

Fuel Type:

Original Owner

☐

Dealer's City

State

Zip Code

Transmission Type

☐ Antilock Brakes

Powertrain

Multiple Failure:

Incident Date(s)

09-APR-2014

☐ Cruise Control

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Vehicle Component Code: FUEL/PROPULSION SYSTEM (PWS)

Failure Mileage

25000

Failure Speed

25

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make

Tire Model (Name or Number)

Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)

DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036)

☐ Original Equipment

☐ Prior Repair

Failure Location:

Tire Component Code

Tire Failure Type:

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make:

Date Manufactured:

Model No./Name:

Seat Type:

Installation System:

Child Seat Component Code:

Failed Part:

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and injury(ies).)

Crash

☐ Yes ☒ No

Fire

☒ Yes ☐ No

Number of Persons Injured

0

Number of Deaths

0

Reported to Police

N

Narrative Description of Incident(S), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).

Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e., parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

TL* THE CONTACT OWNS A 2004 BMW R1150R. THE CONTACT STATED WHILE DRIVING 25 MPH HE BEGAN TO SMELL FUEL. THE CONTACT ALSO NOTICED THAT THE VEHICLE WAS ON FIRE NEAR THE FUEL PUMP. THE VEHICLE WAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED. THERE WERE NO INJURIES. A POLICE REPORT WAS FILED. THE MOTORCYCLE FAILURE WAS NOT DIAGNOSED. THE MANUFACTURER WAS MADE AWARE OF THE FAILURE. THE FAILURE AND CURRENT MILEAGE WAS 2,500.

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974-Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a Manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

17 dig. WB10318A04 [REDACTED]		BMW		Model R1150 R	Model Year 2004
Date Purchased	Dealer's Name and Telephone Number			Engine: No: Cylinders	Fuel Type:
Original Owner ☐	Dealer's City		State	Zip Code	
Transmission Type	☐ Antilock Brakes ☐ Cruise Control	Powertrain	Multiple Failure:	Incident Date(s) 09-APR-2014	
FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION					
Vehicle Component Code: FUEL/PROPULSION SYSTEM (PWS)				Failure Mileage 25000 2500	Failure Speed 25
ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE					
Tire Make	Tire Model (Name or Number)		Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)		
DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036)	☐ Original Equipment ☐ Prior Repair	Failure Location:			
Tire Component Code		Tire Failure Type:			
ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE					
Make:	Date Manufactured:		Model No./Name:		
Seat Type:	Installation System:				
Child Seat Component Code:	Failed Part:				

JUN 26 2014

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION*(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and injury(ies).)*

Crash ☐ Yes ☒ No	Fire ☒ Yes ☐ No	Number of Persons Injured 0	Number of Deaths 0	Reported to Police N
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Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).

Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e., parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

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Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies)

Flame appeared under the tank at approx .5 miles
I stopped from feeling heat on my leg at .6 miles to
check reason why, I then saw flames under the tank.
I moved motorcycle to side of road. Tried to put out by smothering
with my T-Shirt. The fire got larger (bike was not running)
Gas had melted and bike really burst into flames. Bike
completely destroyed. I have photos and bike is under cover.
I have emailed BMW the photos.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY



To whom it may concern,

The battery on this motorcycle was replaced a few days before the incident.

After installation I started the bike and checked for leaks at the hose disconnect sections. There were no leaks.

I rode the bike around the block and again checked for leaks at the disconnects, finding none.

Next day I rode the bike on a few mile ride. I didn't notice anything unusual.

Two days after that I took another ride.

After about 2 tenths of a mile at a stop sign in my neighborhood I stopped at a stop sign. I was wearing shorts, and put left foot down. The bike leaned against my left thigh which was exposed skin. I felt the plastic covering against my skin and noted how warm it felt. Like when a bike is sitting in the sun. However the bike had been under a cover and not exposed to direct sunlight.

I rode another couple of tenths (no speed reached more than 25 miles per hour in this trip, I live in a HOA with small roads and foot traffic from the residents) at this stop sign I once again leaned against my left thigh and it felt warmer than before. I leaned over a little bit and look down at the area. I saw something sorta orange, I thought holy cow that can't be fire. I left the stop sign to keep from blocking it) and turned left to go to the exit to turn left onto the highway, and decided I had better check this out closer. Six Tenths a mile into the ride. I checked with my car odometer.

I stopped the bike and checked to make sure no cars were coming and dismounted the bike. I leaned down and peered under the area directly beneath the tank. I then saw flames for sure and jumped backwards and laid the bike on its side. Flames at this point started to come out of the bottom of the tank and frame. I decided to pick up the bike and roll it to the side of the road because of potential traffic.

I took off my t-shirt and tried to stuff it into the area to smother the flames. This did not work, and it was starting to get worse. I ran to a nearby home and asked for a fire extinguisher. I ran back to the bike, however it was discharged from age. I returned to the home and came back with the neighbor, the Fire department had been called by this point also by the wife.

The bikes plastic parts all caught fire and added to the fire.

I noted Two things that happened during the fire.

One is the Front forks broke from the bike from the heat. There is a photo of this. The forks appear to be made of pot metal. I was very surprised that heat could do that to the metal.

I also noted that the Lid covering the fuel intake had melted off. This explained why a few minutes into the fire that there was a very large eruption of fuel and flames reached as high as twenty feet, and really contributed to the destruction of the bike. The flames before were reaching a four to five foot height.

I have enclosed several photos and a copy of the fire department report.

10582823

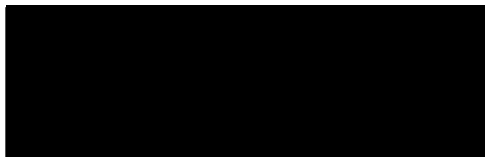
Side view of the bike

Top of tank showing lid had melted (can see the screws still in place for the bracket) I did not find the lid when doing a clean up of the accident. I shoveled all the parts in the trailer with the rest of the bike.

A photo showing a CU of the front forks where they broke. All the bystanders were pretty amazed at this as several road also (lot of bike riders in my section) as was I.

Two shots showing the under side of the tank.

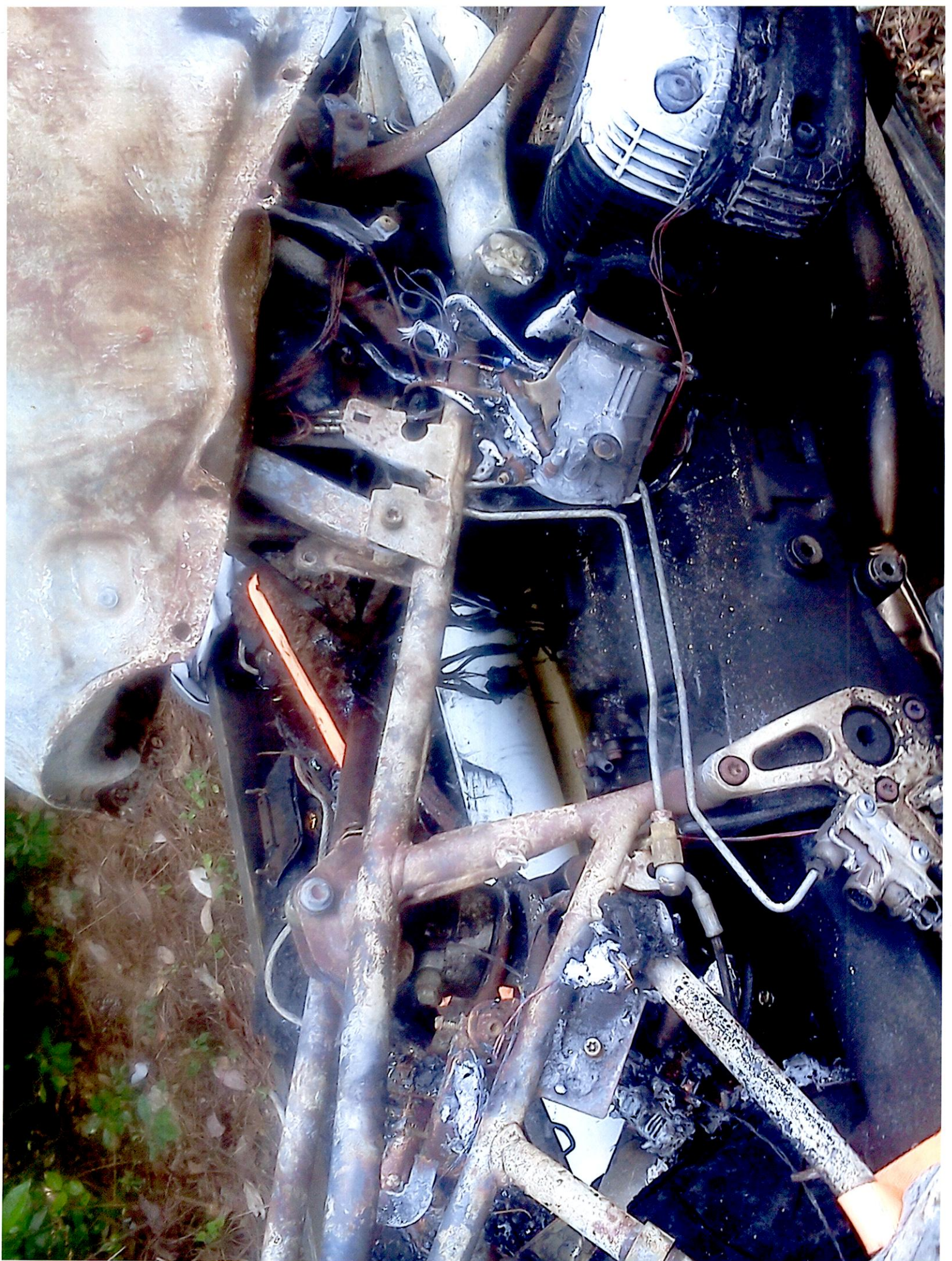
Regards,



PS Please note the fire was UNDER the tank
The fuel disconnects are on the side well below
the tank and exposed to view. The leak were not
from the disconnects. Fire was directly under the
tank.
Miles on bike was 2,500 - 2,800 (not 25,000)













Reporting Party (Print) [Redacted] **Fire Rescue Help Group, Do Not Reproduce Without Permission**

Confidential Report Information, Do Not Release

Date: 4-9-2014

LVFD Incident # 448-14

Address: CO. RD. 99 @ Buena Vista Dr.

Dispatched for: Vehicle Fire

Call Received :

On Scene 14:50

911 page 14:46

Fire Controlled 14:55

Acknowledged :

Leave Scene :

Enroute 14:46

In Service 15:09

Cancelled :

Med Unit on Scene :

Life Flight :

Squad 37	Squad 37 - red	E 3711	E 3714	E 3715
		L. Ellis 04		
		R. Wells 54		
		Tese 78		

E 3716	Rescue 37	Brush 3725	T 3723	Marine 37
		Baroco 01		
		Pope 32		

Personnel responded POV

Personnel At Station

Support Personnel on Fire Scene

Form Completed by: Bert Baroco

ID # 3701