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	Repository ☐
16-NOV-2017 MAY 0 9 2018	Reference No. 11046596

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name			
Address		Daytime Telephone Number	E-mail Address
City HAWTHORNE	State CA	Zip Code	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	Make	Model	Model Year
WB1053906AZ	BMW	K1300 GT	2010

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) 10-NOV-2017

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Vehicle Component Code: FUEL/PROPULSION SYSTEM (PWS)	Failure Mileage	Failure Speed
	19000	50

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: DOTMAL9ABC036)	☐ 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	Fire	Number of Persons Injured	Number of Deaths	Reported to Police
☐ Yes ☒ No	☐ Yes ☒ No	1	0	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 2010 BMW K1300 GT MOTORCYCLE. WHILE DRIVING APPROXIMATELY 50 MPH, THE CONTACT NOTICED THAT HIS PANTS WERE WET FROM FUEL THAT WAS LEAKING FROM A PLASTIC CONNECTOR LINE. THE CONTACT ALSO STATED THAT THE ENGINE STARTED TO MISFIRE. THE CONTACT COASTED THE VEHICLE TO THE SIDE OF THE ROAD. IN ADDITION, THE CONTACT STATED THAT THE FUEL WAS BLOWING ONTO THE ENGINE THAT COULD HAVE RESULTED IN HIM SUSTAINING BURN INJURIES. MEDICAL ATTENTION WAS NOT RECEIVED. THE FAILURE OCCURRED ON THREE DIFFERENT OCCASIONS. THE VEHICLE WAS TOWED TO THE CONTACT'S RESIDENCE. THE VEHICLE WAS NOT TAKEN TO A DEALER. THE VEHICLE WAS NOT DIAGNOSED OR REPAIRED. THE MANUFACTURER STATED THAT THEY WOULD FILE A REPORT AND PROVIDE AN EVALUATION. THE APPROXIMATE FAILURE MILEAGE WAS 19,000.

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.

[redacted]
Hawthorne, Ca [redacted]
[redacted]

April 22, 2018

US DOT
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation, NEF-100
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20077-9382

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your questionnaire asking that I supply additional details regarding the unsafe and defective motor vehicle component I reported (Ref 11046596).

On 10 Nov 2017 I was driving in my 2010 BMW K1300 GT motorcycle. Suddenly, I noticed that my pants were covered in fuel and there was a heavy smell of gasoline. The engine of my motorcycle began to misfire and I pulled off the road and turned off the engine. I saw that there was gasoline pouring out of the underside of my gas tank onto the hot motor of my motorcycle. I was very fortunate that a spark did not start a fire on my motorcycle and pants as I would have certainly been killed in the most horrendous manner if this had happened.

Upon analysis of the failure I learned that the plastic quick release connector that BMW uses to connect the fuel tank to the fuel line had broken and thus allowed fuel to pour from the gasoline tank. This is a problem that had previously happened to me on my 2003 BMW K1200GT motorcycle and I later learned that it is a problem that occurs to virtually every BMW motorcycle after they get to be a few years old and the plastic connectors get brittle and break off.

I did some investigation on the internet and learned that there are literally thousands of complaints listed on internet websites from people who have similarly had their plastic fuel disconnect break and been sprayed with extremely dangerous gasoline. I find it very difficult to believe that there have not been dozens or hundreds of gruesome deaths caused by this dangerous and defective fuel system component.

There are many aftermarket companies who make metal quick disconnect couplings so that people can replace the dangerous and defective OEM BMW plastic couplings. I spoke with my local BMW dealer and he told me that whenever someone brings their BMW into his shop for service he tries to convince them to have their deadly plastic fuel quick disconnects removed and replaced with after market metal connectors. It is clear that the BMW corporation has been aware that they are placing the lives of hundreds of thousands of their customers at risk yet BMW has made no effort to recall and replace the defective plastic disconnects.

I am attaching a picture that shows a broken plastic fuel disconnect (see figure 1 of attached photos). Also shown is a metal aftermarket fuel disconnect sold by one of the dozens of firms that produce metal fuel disconnects made to replace the defective plastic connectors.

This deadly problem exists on most BMW motorcycles manufactured in the 1980's to 2010's. Despite knowing that they were putting customers lives at risk, BMW continued to produce unsafe and deadly plastic fuel quick disconnects for approximately 30 years. I feel it is critical that BMW be made to perform a 100 percent recall of all motorcycles they have manufactured over the past 30 years that have these deadly and unsafe plastic fuel disconnects.

Please feel free to contact me if you require additional clarification.

Sincerely,

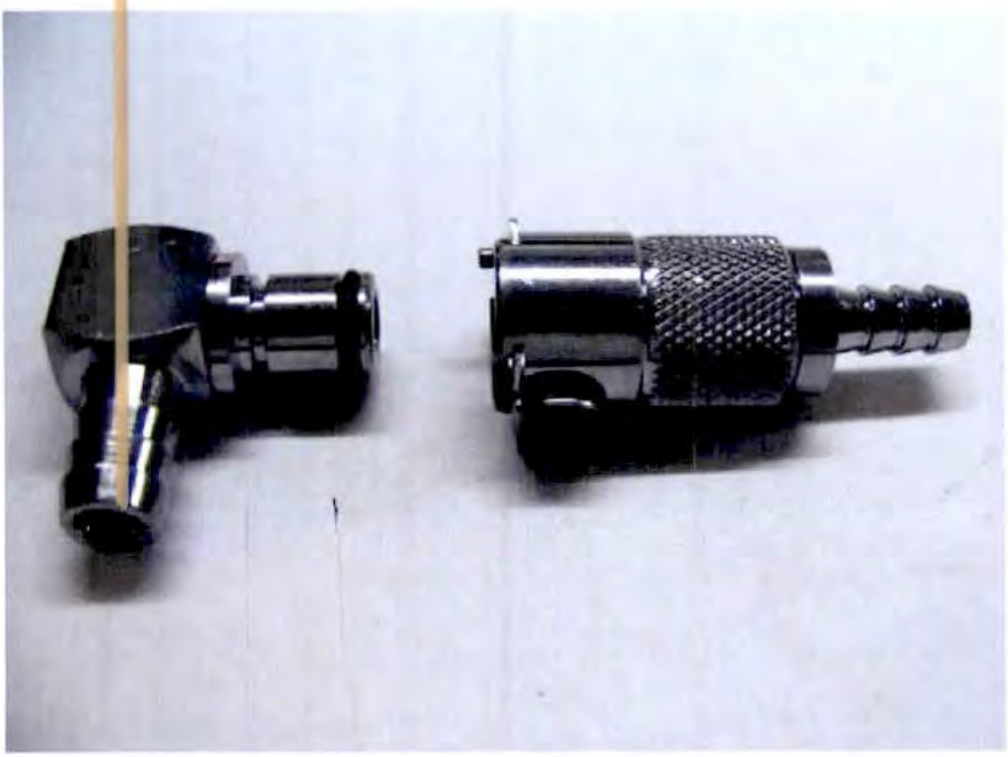
[redacted]

← Example of a new Metal AFTERMARKET Fuel Disconnect.

Broken piece

Picture of a Failed OH plastic Fuel Disconnect (Figure 1)

[redacted] 4/24/2018



Example of AFTERMARKET METAL Fuel Disconnect Sold to Replace The hazardous, Defective, plastic OEM BMW Fuel Disconnects.

[redacted]

4/24/2018