



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

## Auto Safety Hotline

**Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire**

NATIONWIDE 1-800-424-9393  
DC METRO AREA (202) 366-0123  
INTERNET: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

**FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 258**

Date Received

19-APR-2001

Ord. or  
rt. dt  
pd. rt  
rp. ltr

Reference No.

744283

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of report to the manufacturer of your vehicle?  YES  NO  
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name and address to the vehicle manufacturer.

Signature of Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**VEHICLE INFORMATION**

Vehicle Ident. No. (VIN) <small>(Location at bottom of and/or above windshield)</small>	Vehicle Make <b>BMW</b>	Vehicle Model <b>R1100RSL</b>	Vehicle Year <b>1996</b>	Current Odometer Reading		
Purchase Date <b>01-FEB-1997</b>	Dealer's Name _____	Engine Size (CID/CC/L) <b>1100</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Turbo <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel <input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fuel Injectio			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Used	City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____	No Cylinders _____				
Transmission Type <input type="checkbox"/> Manual <input type="checkbox"/> Automatic	Antilock Brakes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Restraint System <input type="checkbox"/> 3-Point Belt <input type="checkbox"/> Motorbelt <input type="checkbox"/> Driverside Airbag <input type="checkbox"/> 2-Point Bel <input type="checkbox"/> Passengerside Airbag	Cruise Control <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Drive Train <input type="checkbox"/> Front <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rear <input type="checkbox"/> 4-Wheel	Vehicle Type <input type="checkbox"/> Car <input type="checkbox"/> Sport Utl <input type="checkbox"/> Van <input type="checkbox"/> Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Minivan <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Body Style <input type="checkbox"/> 2-Door <input type="checkbox"/> 4-Door <input type="checkbox"/> Stationwagon <input type="checkbox"/> Pick Up Truck <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other _____

**FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION**

Component <b>08220000</b>	Part Name(s) <b>ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:WIRING:HARNES:UNDER DASH</b>	Location <input type="checkbox"/> Left <input type="checkbox"/> Right <input type="checkbox"/> Front <input type="checkbox"/> Rear	Failed Part's <input type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement
No of Failure <b>1</b>	Date(s) of Failure(s) <b>10-OCT-2000</b> Mileage at Failure(s) <b>36000</b> <b>35</b>	Failed Part(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	NHTSA Previously <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**APPLICATION INCIDENT INFORMATION**

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and injury(ies) on the back of this form)

Crash <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Fire <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Number of Persons Injured <b>0</b>	Number of Fatalities <b>0</b>	Estimated Property Damag	Reported to Polic <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF FAILURE(S), INCIDENT(S), INJURY(IES)**

WIRING HARNESS SHORTED OUT CAUSING A FAILURE TO CONTINUE OPERATING. OTHER OWNERS OF THE SAME MODEL BMW MOTORCYCLE (R1100GS AND R1150GS, 1995-2001) HAVE EXPERIENCED SIMILAR FAILURES, INCLUDING A RECENT NEAR FATALITY WHEN THE ELECTRICAL SYSTEM AND ALL LIGHTS FAILED AT NIGHT. THE OWNER WAS ALMOST KILLED BY A TRUCK. THE PROBLEM RESULTS FROM CRACKED INSULATION IN THE WIRING HARNESS, CAUSING SHORT CIRCUITING AND VARYING DEGREES OF ELECTRICAL FAILURE. PROPERTY DAMAGE UP TO \$2000 HAS BEEN REPORTED; IT WOULD NOT BE SURPRISING TO LEARN THAT A MAJOR INJURY ACCIDENT HAS OCCURRED FOLLOWING ONE OF THESE FAILURES. SINCE MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENTS ARE OFTEN FATAL, THE OPERATOR WOULD PROBABLY NOT HAVE REPORTED THE ELECTRICAL FAILURE.

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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 to 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.