



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 03-048
Prompted By: FLEET VISIT
Date Opened: 10/17/2003 Date Closed: 02/06/2004
Principal Investigator: SONNY MURIANKA
Subject: OVERHEATED EXHAUST COMPONENTS

Manufacturer: ORION BUS INDUSTRIES, INC.
Products: 2002-2004 ORION 7 LOW FLOOR BUS
Population: 500

Problem Description: High temperatures from the muffler are causing thermal damage to the muffler mounting hardware which allows the muffler to shift from its mounting location and contact engine hoses and air lines.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	1	1	1
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

*Description of Other:

Action: This investigation is closed. A safety related defect trend has not been identified.

Engineer: Sonny Murianka *SM*

Date: 02/06/2004

Div. Chief: Richard Boyd

Date: 02/06/2004

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 02/06/2004

Summary: Orion Bus is unaware of any other owner reports of exhaust system flex pipe failures and believes that the reported failure is a single, isolated incident. The manufacturer of the flex pipe stated that they have sold 250,000 units and no other failures have been reported. They believe the complaint vehicle was an isolated incident.

Based on Orion's data, ODI field work, and the lack of any other identified failures, a safety related defect trend does not exist at this time and further use of agency resources are unwarranted.

The closing of this investigation does not constitute a finding by NHTSA that no safety-related defect exist. The agency reserves the right to take further action on the vehicles in the future if warranted by the circumstances. ODI will continue to monitor field reports and take appropriate action if indicated.

*Just
faxed
on
2/6/04*