



U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 04-016
Prompted By: PE 04-014
Date Opened: 06/24/2004
Principal Investigator: Tom Bowman
Subject: Steering Binding

Manufacturer: Volvo Trucks North America, Inc.
Products: 1998 - 1999 Volvo VTNA VN and VHD Series
Population: 29518

Problem Description: Steering binding due to turn signal canceling ring breaking and jamming

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	3	1	4
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	13	13

*Description Of Other: Warranty Claims

Action: Open an Engineering Analysis.

Engineer: Thomas Bowman

Date: 06/24/2004

Div. Chief: Richard Boyd

Date: 06/24/2004

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 06/24/2004

Summary: ODI'S Preliminary Evaluation focused on the potential for a broken, bent, deformed, fragmented or displaced turn Signal Canceling Ring ("TSCR"), VTNA Part Number 1607363, to restrict the vehicle operator's ability to turn the steering wheel.

The PE identified thirteen VTNA warranty claims that allege that the TSCR had "failed" and that the vehicle steering effort had been adversely affected. To date, ODI has not found any samples of a "failed" TSCR and has not been able to definitely establish whether a "failed" TSCR can or cannot contribute to increased steering effort.

ODI believes that it is appropriate to conduct further investigation (EA level) to better understand the characteristics of TSCR "failures" and to assess the effect, if any, that these types of failures could have on vehicle steering effort.

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VTNA
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