



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 04-003
Prompted By: FLEET COMPLAINT
Date Opened: 01/08/2004
Principal Investigator: Sonny Murianka
Subject: BRAKES FAIL TO RELEASE

Manufacturer: NEW FLYER OF AMERICA, INC.
Products: 1998-2003 NEW FLYER D60HF ARTICULATED BUSES
Population: 800

Problem Description: Brakes fails to release upon being deactivated by the driver. This results in the rear wheels of the forward section of the bus to move laterally or jack-knife.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	58	0	58
Crashes/Fires:	4	0	4
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: Complaints are from two separate fleets

Action: A PRELIMINARY EVALUATION (PE) HAS BEEN OPENED.

Engineer: Sonny Murianka *sm*
Div. Chief: Richard Boyd
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary: This investigation was prompted by a transit fleet which notified ODI on November 6, 2003, by letter, that they were experiencing brake problems on their new flyer high floor articulated buses. In the letter, the fleet stated that they had experienced over 58 incidents where the rear brakes failed to release during morning pullout. They also alleged that there have been three crashes resulting in property damage because of this problem. ODI is aware of another fleet with a similar related crash.

This investigation is opened to gather more information concerning this issue and ascertain the safety ramifications.

*smk
fixed on
1/9/04*