



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 04-047
Prompted by: Manufacturer Contact
Date Opened: 06/18/2004
Principal Investigator: Sonny Murianka
Subject: Service Brake Supply Tank Separation

Manufacturer: Van Hool, N.V.
Products: 2000-2004 Van Hool C2045 Motor Coach Buses
Population: 1500 (estimated)

Problem Description: The mounting brackets for the service brake air tanks/reservoir are failing, potentially allowing the tank to separate from the bus frame.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	0	27	27
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: OPEN A PRELIMINARY EVALUATION (PE).

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

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Summary: ODI has been notified that service brake air supply tank mounting brackets have been failing on the subject buses. This type of failure could result in the loss of air pressure necessary for proper service brake application. Also, there is the possibility that the detached air tank could separate from the bus, striking vehicles operating behind or around the affected bus.

There are three air brake tanks/reservoirs installed on each bus. Reportedly, the mounting hardware at each of the three mounting locations has the potential to fail.

ODI is concerned that this type of failure could result in the loss of air supplied to the service brakes and that the air tank may pose a road hazard if it were to separate from the bus.

A Preliminary Evaluation is warranted.

Not faxed on 6/18/04