

FAT 9/30/04



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 04-068
Prompted By: Owner Complaint
Date Opened: 09/29/2004
Principal Investigator: Sonny Murianka
Subject: Unprotected LP Gas Line

Manufacturer: Monaco Coach Corporation
Products: 2001 Monaco Knight Motor Home
Population: 500 (estimated)

Problem Description: Unprotected or inadequately shielded LP gas lines, that are subjected to road debris and possible damage from tires in the event of a tire blow-out.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	1	0	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: 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: ODI has received a complaint from a motor home owner alleging that while he was inspecting a rear tire that had experienced a blowout, he detected a LP gas odor in the rear wheel well area, the owner alleged that the LP gas lines were routed unprotected behind the rear wheels. ODI is concerned that routing unprotected or inadequately shielded LP gas lines in areas that are likely to be subjected to road debris and possible damage from a tire failure (in the event of a tire blow-out), could increase the risk of a vehicle fire.

This PE is opened to examine this issue, evaluate the safety consequences of such an event, assess industry standard practices, and examine the risk associated with an inadequately shielded LP gas line.

SM 9/30/04 FATed