



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 05-001

Prompted By: PE04-059

Date Opened: 01/05/2005

Date Closed: 12/06/2005

Principal Investigator: Tom Bowman

Subject: Wheel Separations

Manufacturer: Haulmark Industries, Inc.

Products: 2003-04 Model Year Haulmark Trailers Equipped with Aluminum Wheels

Population: 1323

Problem Description: Wheel nuts can loose, causing stud breakage and wheel separations in vehicles equipped with aluminum wheels that have excess paint/coatings in the wheel-hub mounting interfaces.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	0	0	0
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	3	3

*Description of Other: Three wheel separations reported during PE04-059 on Haulmark trailers equipped with aluminum wheels.

Action: Close this Engineering Analysis. A safety related defect trend has not been identified.

Engineer: Thomas Bowman

Date: 12/06/2005

Div. Chief: Richard Boyd

Date: 12/06/2005

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 12/06/2005

Summary: During PE04-059, ODI identified an apparent problem with wheel separations occurring in recreational vehicles (EA04-009 AND EA04-019). In August 2004, ODI extended the investigation activity to include cargo trailers equipped with similar wheel end components as the recreational trailers that had experienced wheel separations (See EA04-032, Keystone and EA04-033 Pace American).

As part of this investigation, ODI, on January 21, 2005 initiated a monitoring program at Haulmark requiring them to notify ODI of all newly reported wheel separations. During this eleven-month monitoring period (through December 2005), Haulmark states that there have been no new reports of wheel separations from Haulmark vehicles since monitoring began in January 2005.

Accordingly, ODI is closing this Engineering Analysis. The closing of this investigation does not constitute a finding by NHTSA that no safety-related defect exists. The Agency reserves the right to take further action if warranted by the circumstances.

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12/14/05
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