



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 05-030
Date Opened: 06/09/2005
Principal Investigator: Tom Bowman
Subject: Wheels Break and/or Crack through Weld

Manufacturer: Carriage, Inc.
Products: Carriage Inc. MY2003-2005 Cameo and 2003 Carri-Lite
Population: 239 (estimated)

Problem Description: The wheel cracks and/or breaks through the weld that attaches the wheel rim to the wheel center.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	0	3	3
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	32	32

*Description Of Other: Carriage warranty claims for air leaks and rim "failures" or "cracks" at unspecified locations.

Action: Open a Preliminary Evaluation (PE).

Engineer: Thomas Bowman

Date: 06/09/2005

Div. Chief: Richard Boyd

Date: 06/09/2005

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 06/09/2005

Summary: ODI is investigating incidents in which the wheel rim has cracked and/or broken from the wheel center (wheel part number "US 977680 CC" and "US 977680 HD").

ODI made inquiries of the major purchasers of the affected wheels which included Carriage. Carriage informed ODI of three incidents reported in 2004, alleging that the "rim cracked at weld" in model year 2003 Cameo vehicles. Carriage also identified an additional 28 incidents that describe an "air leak" and 4 incidents that describe either a rim "crack" (no location specified) or rim "failure" in Cameo and Carri-Lite vehicles.

ODI will open an investigation to determine the reason(s) that these wheels cracked and/or broke.

Fax to MARK POLICARNE
CARRIAGE
574-642-4145
6/9/05