



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 05-044
Date Opened: 08/17/2005
Principal Investigator: Sonny Murianka
Subject: Loose Axle Hardware

Manufacturer: 4-Star Trailers, Inc
Products: 4-Star MY 2003-2005 Horse Trailers
Population: 200 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Axle securement hardware on certain trailers equipped with "STI" Air Suspension may not have been properly torqued.

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	1	0

*Description Of Other:

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation (PE) has been opened.

Engineer: Sonny Murianka

Date: 08/17/2005

Div. Chief: Richard Boyd

Date: 08/17/2005

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 08/17/2005

Summary: This issue was discovered during a service bulletin review. On July 21, 2005, 4-star forwarded ODI a copy of a service letter recently sent to their dealers and owners advising them of the immediate need to inspect and retorque the mounting bracket bolts on the axle suspension.

The letter also states, "failure to do so could result in property damage, personal injury, and/or death."

This issue was discovered by a line technician who noticed that the bolts installed on the axle were not appropriately torqued.

Historically, this type of issue has been addressed with a safety recall.

This investigation is being opened to further evaluate the safety ramifications of the owner letter described above.

for
Son
9/24/05