



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 06-040
Date Opened: 09/12/2006
Principal Investigator: Tom Bowman
Subject: Axle Spindle Weld Fracture
Date Closed: 12/06/2006

Manufacturer: Dutchmen Manufacturing, Inc.
Products: Dutchmen MFR - Colorado RV MY 2007
Population: 96

Problem Description: Axle may fracture at spindle attachment weld

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	0	0

*Description of Other:

Action: Close this PE

Engineer: Thomas Bowman
Div. Chief: Richard Boyd
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 12/06/2006
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Summary: Axle Supplier lippert components manufactured the suspect axles, and has advised ODI that lippert has inspected and/or replaced all suspect axles sold to Dutchmen MFG before any suspect axles / vehicles were placed into service.

Dutchmen MFG has not reported any additional fractured axle - spindle welds since the initial three incidents that were that were reported between June 17 and June 21, 2006.

ODI will monitor Dutchmen MFG for the next six months (until May 2007) for any axle - spindle weld performance problems and will initiate further investigation if additional problems are reported.

The closing of this investigation does not constitute a finding by NHTSA that no safety-related defect exist. The agency reserves the right to take further action on the vehicles in the future if warranted by the circumstances.