



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 06-047

Date Opened: 10/24/2006

Date Closed: 01/22/2007

Principal Investigator: Nate Seymour

Subject: Tow Hitch/Frame Failure

Manufacturer: Monaco Coach Corporation

Products: 2001-2003 Selected Monaco/Holiday Rambler Class A Motorhomes

Population: 2086

Problem Description: The vehicle frame may split where the Tow Hitch attaches resulting in a loss of load carrying capability or separation of the towed unit.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	2	0	2
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: This PE is closed. Holiday rambler has submitted a defect report (07V-010). A copy is attached.

Engineer: Nate Seymour *NS*

Date: 01/22/2007

Div. Chief: Richard Boyd *RB*

Date: 01/22/2007

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 01/22/2007

Summary: ODI opened this investigation after receiving a congressional inquiry and determining the existence of two failures. Additional reports were noted on the internet. The reports claim that the frame extension lower flange is cracking and allowing the hitch to bend down towards the ground. Monaco had previously produced a service bulletin addressing this matter.

ODI sent an information request to Monaco and had several discussions with Monaco officials.

As a result, Monaco Coach Inc submitted a 573 and is recalling the subject vehicles. Monaco will reinforce the frame extension flange with two pieces of angle iron.

This investigation is closed. ODI believes that Monaco's action addresses the problem. ODI has excused Monaco from answering the information request letter. ODI is unaware of the number of failures, if any reported to Monaco, since the information request was unanswered.