



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 06-026
Date Opened: 07/10/2006
Principal Investigator: Sonny Murianka
Subject: Overstressed Battery Cable

Manufacturer: Blue Bird Body Company
Products: Blue Bird 2006 Vision Bus
Population: 5000 (estimated)

Problem Description: The terminal end of the battery power cable fails due to the battery cable being too short in length.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	3	34	34
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: A Preliminary Evaluation (PE) has been opened.

Engineer: Sonny Murianka

Date: 07/10/2006

Div. Chief: Richard Boyd

Date: 07/10/2006

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 07/10/2006

Summary: ODI has been notified by the GSA Automotive Engineering Division that they have had three incidents where a battery cable terminal end has failed. Per GAS, the positive battery cable is too short and is being stressed during normal operation resulting in a complete separation. This may lead to an engine shut down or possibly a thermal event if the cable shorts to a ground source upon failure.

This investigation is being opened to further evaluate both a stalling event and the potential for a thermal event to occur.

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