



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 07-053
Date Opened: 10/29/2007 Date Closed: 02/22/2008
Principal Investigator: Sonny Murianka
Subject: Interior Fires

Manufacturer: New Flyer Industries LTD
Products: 1996-2001 New Flyer 60 Foot Articulated Buses
Population: 431

Problem Description: Condensation water from the air conditioner evaporator leaks on electrical wires creating a fire hazard.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	3	3	3
Crashes/Fires:	3	3	3
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 investigation is closed. New Flyer will conduct a safety recall.

Engineer: Sonny Murianka Date: 02/22/2008
Div. Chief: Richard Boyd Date: 02/22/2008
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter Date: 02/22/2008

Summary: The Office of Defects Investigation opened this Preliminary Evaluation based on a fleet report of 3 thermal events allegedly the result of condensation from the air conditioner's evaporator drain hose shorting electrical connections and various electrical components. The investigation was opened to evaluate and determine the cause of these thermal events.

A technical evaluation determined that the drain line for the rooftop evaporator unit contacted the ballast inverter for the fluorescent lighting panel and became abraded.

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The abrasion of the drain line resulted in low pressure and low volumes of moisture being introduced into the lighting panel resulting in electrical shorts. New Flyer decided to conduct a safety recall to correct the problem. The corrective action will be to install an "Elbow" on the air conditioning drain line where it enters the bus interior. This elbow relocates the drain line to provide the needed clearance between the line and lighting components. This remedy resolves the issue under investigation and, therefore, this investigation is closed.