



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE07-032
Date Opened: 06/25/2007
Principal Investigator: Peter Kivett
Subject: Overheated Brake Calipers

Manufacturer: Workhorse Custom Chassis
Products: 2000-2005 Workhorse Chassis with Hydraulic Brakes
Population: 10,000 (Estimated)

Problem Description: One or more brake calipers may drag, causing the brakes to overheat.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	17	0	17
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 has been opened.

Engineer: Peter Kivett *PK*
Div. Chief: Richard Boyd
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary: ODI has received 17 reports on model year 2000-2005 Workhorse Chassis recreational vehicles with allegations of overheating disc brake calipers. Nine of the complaints fall within the range of build dates to which recall # 04V-084 applied. The remaining eight appear to be outside of the applicable build dates (August 2000 - June 2002).

Owners are claiming that in some cases the brakes begin to drag and lock up. ODI conducted interviews with complainants and several reported that during normal brake pedal applications, the brake linkage binds at a pivot point. The Binding may contribute to inadequate release of the calipers causing the calipers to drag and overheat. Some owners also report the brake pedal goes to the floor. Overheating calipers, depending on the severity, may cause brake drag with premature pad wear, brake lockup, wheel end fire and possibly brake fluid boil and evaporation.

ODI believes that a Preliminary Evaluation is warranted to assess the possible safety concerns and scope of this problem.