



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 07-035
Date Opened: 07/12/2007
Principal Investigator: *Bob Young*
Subject: Trailer wheel separation

Manufacturer: Champion Sidecars, Inc.
Products: MY 2003 "Colorado" model
Population: 500 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Stub axle fracture/wheel separation

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	1	0	1
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 : Open this PE.

Engineer: *Bob Young*

Date: 07/12/2007

Div. Chief: *Richard Boyd*

Date: 07/12/2007

Office Dir.: *Kathleen C. DeMeter*

Date: 07/12/2007

Summary: ODI received an owner letter alleging the left wheel separated from his subject trailer when the stub axle fractured while towing it behind his motorcycle on June 17, 2006. Subsequently, the trailer owner received a copy of a letter from Champion acknowledging that two separations, involving other customers, had occurred previously. That letter, dated late 2004 and allegedly sent to all customers (though the subject owner here claims he never received it), advised customers that Champion was making an "upgraded axle design" available, at no cost, to those customers willing to pay for its installation.

To learn more about this issue, the upgraded axle/frame assembly, and Champion's late 2004 letter, we are opening this PE.

Resume faxed to Champion, 7-13-07 @ 9A