



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 08-021
Date Open/Closed: 3/24/2008 / 7/2/2008
Principal Investigator: *Bob Young*
Subject: Suspension collapse- frame crossmember separation
Prompted by: IE07-125

Manufacturer: Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.
Products: MY 2006-7 ZX-14 motorcycles
Population: 9,746

Problem Description: Frame crossmember fractures/separates resulting in rear suspension collapse.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	5	**	5
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	1	Confidential	Confidential

**Description: Kawasaki recall in lieu of IR response - *Other: Web boards and Kawasaki EWR reports

Action: Kawasaki has decided to conduct a related safety recall (08V-222). Close this PE.

Engineer: *Bob Young* Date: 07/02/2008
Div. Chief: *Richard Boyd* Date: 07/02/2008
Office Dir.: *Kathleen C. DeMeter* Date: 07/02/2008

Summary: This PE was opened based on owner complaints, EWR field reports, and web forum discussions alleging that some model year 2006-7 Kawasaki ZX14 high performance motorcycles had the rear suspension collapse due to failure of the welds securing the lower rear crossmember to the frame. Subsequently, in its recall filing, Kawasaki wrote, "the lower rear engine mount has a threaded collar designed to eliminate clearance between the frame and the engine cases before the engine mounting bolt is tightened. On some of the affected units, the collar was tightened excessively, which created stress across the lower crossmember."

Kawasaki dealers are instructed to inspect the affected units and install a new frame on those ZX14's with suspect crossmembers. In its May 30, 2008 owner notification letter, Kawasaki cautions that a "frame replacement may require a few weeks due to the time required to prepare and ship the new frame and labels with the correct Vehicle Identification Number."

Resume sent by E-mail to Kawasaki, 7-2-08 @ 4:45PM