



# ODI RESUME

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

Investigation: PE 08-009  
Date Opened: 02/01/2008  
Principal Investigator: Bruce York  
Subject: Power Steering Pump Failures

Manufacturer: Freightliner LLC  
Products: 2004 thru 2005 MY Freightliner Century and X-Line Models  
Population: 47,894 (Estimated)

Problem Description: The subject vehicles may experience a power steering pump failure resulting in reduced steering assist. The reduction in steering assist can result in difficulty controlling the vehicle.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	0	0	0
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	Confidential	Confidential

\*Description of Other: Warranty claims for "binds, sticks, seized" or "inoperative" power steering pump.

Action: This Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Engineer: Bruce York

Date: 02/01/2008

Div. Chief: Richard Boyd *RB*

Date: 02/01/2008

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 02/01/2008

Summary: Early Warning Aggregate Data submitted to NHTSA by Freightliner suggests that a steering (EWR CODE 01) problem exists for the 2004 and 2005 Century and X-Line Class vehicles. The count of warranty claims submitted for the subject vehicles in the fourth quarter of 2006 was significantly higher than for other 2004 and 2006 MY models manufactured by Freightliner.

Further review of warranty data submitted by Freightliner showed a very high rate of failure of the power steering pump on the subject vehicles.

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In addition to the warranty claims related to the power steering pump failures, Freightliner has also released a technical service bulletin (FSB 46-38) describing an issue with trw power steering pumps that can result in reduced power steering assist on the subject vehicles.

A Preliminary Evaluation (PE) is warranted to determine if the power steering pump failures create a situation where the vehicle becomes difficult to steer or startles the driver upon failing, thus presenting a safety risk.