



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE09-038
Date Opened: 08/28/2009
Principal Investigator: Sonny Murianka
Subject: Wheel Chair Door Becomes Unlatched

Manufacturer: Motor Coach Industries, Inc
Products: 2001-2004 MCI G4500 Series Coaches
Population: 500 (estimated)

Problem Description: The sliding wheel chair door may unexpectedly open.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	1	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	1	0

Description of Other: Field Change Bulletin.

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation (PE) has been opened.

Engineer: Sonny Murianka
Div. Chief: Richard Boyd
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary:

MCI submitted a Field Change Program Bulletin in their July 2009 Monthly Communications (49 CFR 597.5) submission regarding a wheelchair lift interlock door retrofit kit for G4500 series coaches. Per the bulletin, the sliding wheelchair door may become unlatched, the visual warning indicator in the driver's area may go unnoticed by the driver and there is no audible warning.

ODI received a complaint from an individual whose group chartered a G4500 motor coach and reportedly the wheelchair access door on the right side of the bus opened while the bus was traveling on the highway at 55 mph.

This investigation has been opened to assess the scope and safety consequence of this issue.