U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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Investigation: EQ 10-008
Prompted by: 10E-025
Date Opened: 10/15/2010
Investigator: Alexander Ansley
Approver: Jennifer Timian
Subject: Caterpillar Engine Fuel Line Leak

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: CATERPILLAR INC.
Products: C7 Diesel Engines produced 3/3/2005 - 1/6/2009
Population: 5,920

Problem Description: Certain caterpillar C7 diesel engines contain two fuel lines that may develop a crack and potentially cause a fire.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	0	TBD	TBD
Crashes/Fires:	0	TBD	TBD
Injury Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Fatality Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open EQ

Summary:

On June 22, 2010, Caterpillar, Inc. reported that certain C7 diesel engines, manufactured between March 3, 2005 and January 6, 2009, contain two fuel lines that may develop a crack at the fastening point to the common fuel rail and cause a fuel leak. A fuel leak, in the presence of an ignition source, can result in a vehicle fire. This issue was assigned recall number 10E-025.

Caterpillar submitted a customer list to NHTSA and notified its customers of this defect on September 9, 2010. As a result, Bluebird Bus (10V-289 & 10V-290), Ford (10V-398), and Navistar (10V-310 & 10V-314) filed subsequent Defect Reports for their affected vehicle population. Only General Motors and Kenworth Truck Company, who were also listed on Caterpillar's report, have not submitted a Defect Report to NHTSA or conducted a safety recall for their vehicles.

The purpose of this EQ is to write to these two companies, notify them of this defect in any vehicles they manufactured, and ensure thorough safety recalls are conducted where appropriate.