U.S. Department of Transportation

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

# ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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**Investigation:** PE 10-013
**Date Opened:** 04/30/2010
**Principal Investigator:** Bruce York-B
**Subject:** Fire In Grote LED Clearance/Marker Lamps

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** GROTE INDUSTRIES, LLC
**Products:** Grote LED Clearance/Marker Lamps Manufactured in 2006
**Population:** 500,000 (Estimated)

**Problem Description:** Moisture can enter the subject LED lamp housing. Excessive moisture in the housing that does not dissipate can lead to the failure of the lamps, including overheating, melting, and, potentially, a fire.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

| | ODI | Manufacturer | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Complaints:** | 1 | TBD | TBD |
| **Crashes/Fires:** | 3 | TBD | TBD |
| **Injury Incidents:** | 0 | TBD | TBD |
| **Fatality Incidents:** | 0 | TBD | TBD |

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** This Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

**Summary:**

ODI has received 1 complaint from a transportation fleet alleging 3 Grote LED clearance/marker lamp failures. The lamps have melted, burned, and had small fires

Similar Grote LED clearance/marker lamps were recently recalled (10V-038) by Thor Industries on four of their models built in the 2006 - 2008 Model Years. In the recall notice, Thor Industries explains that there was a material change that occurred on the recalled lamps that could result in a variation in material strength.

A Preliminary Evaluation (PE) is warranted to determine if the LED lamp failures that occurred on the complainant vehicles resulted from the same material defect as the previously recalled Grote lamps. This investigation will also determine if the failing lamps create a situation where a vehicle fire is possible and presents a safety risk to the driver and other passengers.