OFFICE OF DEFECTS & INVESTIGATIONS
2010 MAY 17 A 10:43

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May 14, 2010

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

DP10-002

Richard P. Boyd, Chief
M&HDV Division
Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Dayton Wire Wheel, Inc. -- PEO9-052

Dear Mr. Boyd:

Please be advised that we represent Dayton Wire Wheel, Inc. ("Dayton") and are providing the following information and documents in response to correspondence directed to Dayton and received March 9, 2010. As some responsive information and documentation contains confidential business and commercial material, a complete set of documents and responses has been sent, in duplicate, to the Office of Chief Counsel as directed in your correspondence.

Specifically, Dayton is providing confidential information as to the specific number of Subject Products manufactured (Response No. 1), the number of complaints associated with each of the identified Subject Products and associated documentation (Response Nos. 2 and 3). Copies of test reports and analysis related to the Subject Products (Response No. 6), a description of the development and design process for the "BA" wheel (Response No. 7) and additional test reports (attached to Response No. 9). All of this information and documentation contains confidential commercial and business information.

Dayton is quite disappointed that the Petitioner has elected to use NHTSA as a part of his litigation strategy in connection with his pending civil litigation against Dayton. However, Dayton welcomes this opportunity to fully explain and highlight the extensive development, testing and manufacturing process that goes into all of its products. It is as a result of this extensive process that Dayton is confident in the safety and quality of all its products which is supported by its excellent reputation within the industry and unblemished safety record.

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It should be noted that none of the Subject Products at issue in the information request have ever been found to have any "alleged defect" (as that term is defined) as a result of Dayton's development or manufacturing process. Specifically, Dayton has never had a report or instance where any problem or issue with Subject Products Nos. 1-7 resulted in a wheel collapse. Similarly, Dayton has never had any report or instance where a problem or issue with Subject Products Nos. 10 and 11 resulted in wheel separation. Dayton has never had any report or instance where any problem or issue with Subject Products No. 12 resulting in wheel collapse. With respect to Subject Products nos. 8 and 9, Dayton has had one instance where a pulley failed. However, upon inspection (more fully explained in Dayton's responses contained herein) the pulley failed as a direct result of improper mounting.

Dayton looks forward to answering any additional questions you may have. In the meantime, if you have any immediate questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey P. Hinebaugh

/ld

Enclosure

c: Mr. Robert Young
Mr. Charles Schroeder