U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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Investigation: PE 11-030
Date Opened: 09/09/2011 **Date Closed:** 02/03/2012
Investigator: Robert Young **Reviewer:** Bruce York-B
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: Wheelchair Lift Rollstop Failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: BRAUN CORPORATION
Products: Century 2 and Vista 2
Population: 21,421

Problem Description: Wheelchair lift outboard "Rollstop" barrier fails to latch in the upright position. A passenger seated in a wheelchair may unexpectedly roll off the lift.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	1	1	1**
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	1	0	1
Number of Injuries:	1	0	1
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	41	41

***Description of Other:** Rollstop-related warranty claims

** Count indicates duplicate reports received by ODI and manufacturer.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Recall 12E-002 - Close this PE

Summary:

Braun Vista 2 and Century 2 wheelchair lifts may allow unintended wheelchair roll-away to occur when the outer barrier system fails to latch. This failure mode is alleged to have allowed an occupied, powered wheelchair, weighing 417.3 lbs (the lift is rated to 800 lb.) to roll off an elevated lift resulting in serious injuries to the chair occupant.

To address outer rollstop latching issues going forward, Braun modified the subject lifts latching mechanism...a modification introduced into production on 8-24-10.

To correct those lifts already in use, Braun issued two service bulletins (36218 and 36359 in April 2010 and June 2010, respectively) and one modified latch kit.

Braun has now decided to recall the subject lifts covered by the two bulletins. With that safety-related recall (12E-002) this PE is closed.