



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

**Investigation:** PE 11-028  
**Date Opened:** 08/29/2011  
**Investigator:** Peter Kivett **Reviewer:** Bruce York-B  
**Approver:** Frank Borris  
**Subject:** Output shaft failure and separation

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** DAIMLER TRUCKS NORTH AMERICA, FREIGHTLINER LLC  
**Products:** 2011 Cascadia, Columbia, Coronado & Business Class M2  
**Population:** 253 (Estimated)  
**Problem Description:** Arvin Meritor output shaft failures at the rear axle due to improper heat treatment

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
<b>Complaints:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Other*:</b>	0	2	2

\*Description of Other: Manufacturer submitted EWR field reports.

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** This Preliminary Evaluation is opened

### Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received a field service campaign (SF441AB) from Daimler Trucks North America (DTNA) involving the replacement of the output shafts located in the forward-rear axle carrier of certain class 8 vehicles equipped with Arvin Meritor RT series output shaft assemblies. The purpose of this field campaign is to address a risk resulting from an incorrect heat treatment process of the output shaft. ODI is aware of two field reports submitted by DTNA for alleged output shaft failures.

This defect may cause the output shaft to break within the forward-rear axle carrier resulting in a loss of motive power. Additionally, the output shaft could possibly eject from the vehicle posing a danger to other vehicles or pedestrians.

A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the scope and severity of the alleged defect.