



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

## ODI RESUME

**Investigation:** EQ 12-011  
**Prompted by:** 12V-465 & 12V-518  
**Date Opened:** 12/04/2012 **Date Closed:** 07/12/2013  
**Investigator:** Cynthia Glass  
**Approver:** Jennifer Timian  
**Subject:** Leaking MGM brake chambers

### MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** MGM BRAKES, New Flyer Industries Ltd., Navistar, Inc.  
**Products:** Type 24 MGM J-series piston parking brake chambers  
**Population:** 22,177  
**Problem Description:** Certain MGM brake chambers may experience an air leak causing the service brakes to lock up without warning.

### ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** This EQ investigation is closed.

**Summary:**

The summary for this investigation is provided in a separate attachment to this resume.

This equipment query is closed.

## **EQ 12-011: MGM Parking Brake Chambers May Leak**

### **Closing Resume Summary**

08July2013

#### **BACKGROUND**

In a letter dated September 19, 2012, Navistar, Inc. (Navistar) notified the NHTSA that it had decided a defect exists in certain Model Year (MY) 2013 International 8600, MY 2012-2013 DuraStar, MY 2011-2013 ProStar and MY 2012 WorkStar trucks manufactured from November 23, 2010 through April 2, 2012. These vehicles were equipped with MGM J-Series piston spring parking brake chambers, Feature Code 04EVP. The piston bore area of the parking brake chamber may have an air leak that could result in the parking brake not fully releasing. According to Navistar's filing, if the parking brake does not fully release, the service brakes may lock up without warning, increasing the risk of a crash. NHTSA assigned recall number 12V-465 to this matter.

In a letter dated October 23, 2012, the same defect was reported by New Flyer Industries, Ltd. (New Flyer) regarding certain MY 2010-2012 New Flyer transit buses. In terms of consequence, New Flyer did not identify a risk of service brake lock up, but determined that MGM changed the internal design of the specific models of brake chambers used by New Flyer between November 2010 and December 2011 to an integrated guide design. These brake chambers may under certain conditions allow sufficient pressure to escape from the parking brake circuit, resulting in brake drag. Brake drag causes thermal damage to brakes and brake system components, and may result in fire. NHTSA assigned recall number 12V-518 to this matter.

Both Navistar and New Flyer identified MGM Brakes (MGM) as the manufacturer of the defective brake chambers.

On December 4, 2012, the Recall Management Division (RMD) opened this Equipment Query Investigation in order to write the companies that purchased these parking brake chambers, to notify them of this defect in any vehicle they manufactured, and to ensure thorough safety recalls are conducted where appropriate. An Information Request (IR) letter was sent on December 10, 2012 to MGM requesting: a list of vehicle manufacturers and after-market customers that purchased the affected brakes; the name, address and phone number of a contact for each customer; the quantity sold; the dates shipped. MGM was also asked to file a defect report if it agreed its equipment was defective.

#### **MGM RESPONSE**

On December 17, 2012, MGM responded to the IR. MGM reported that based on its review of the data and information on the parking brake chambers, it did not believe the parking brake chambers were defective and it would not be filing a defect report or conducting a recall of any aftermarket equipment. However, as requested by RMD, MGM provided a purchaser list identifying 57 purchasers including vehicle manufacturers, other original equipment manufacturers, and service parts distributors and retailers.

RMD mailed letters to the seven vehicle manufacturers and the one original equipment supplier (Meritor, Inc.), MGM had identified as having purchased the equipment. Each was notified of the New Flyer and Navistar defect decisions and recalls, and was requested to respond with either a defect decision and report, or an explanation as to why a defect decision was not being made. In response, Volvo Trucks North America (Volvo) filed a defect report and indicated it would conduct a recall of its vehicles. Also, two vehicle manufacturers related to Volvo Trucks filed defect reports and agreed to conduct recalls: Mack Truck (13V-153) and Prevost Car Inc. (13E-022).

The remaining six vehicle manufacturers filed responses explaining that they did not agree that their products were defective and provided reasons for that decision. These responses are located in this investigation’s file. The six vehicle manufacturers are:

Great Dane Trailers
Stoughton Trailer Inc.
Mertz Manufacturing, LLC
Daimler Trucks North America
Kentucky Trailer Manufacturing
Capacity Of Texas Inc.

As for Meritor, it incorporated the parking brake chambers into axle assemblies it then further distributed to vehicle manufacturers or for aftermarket use. RMD notified the eight vehicle manufacturer purchasers Meritor identified on its purchaser list of the other recalls, and requested either a defect decision be made and a recall conducted, or an explanation as to why a defect decision was not being made. Seven of these vehicle manufacturers made defect decisions, filed defect reports, and are conducting recalls:

Daimler Chrysler Commercial Buses NA	Recall: 13V-056
Ferrara Fire Apparatus, Inc.	Recall: 13V-205
Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corporation	Recall: 13V-137
Emergency One, Inc.	Recall: 13V-145
HME Fire Truck Chassis Group	Recall: 13V-167
Seagraves Fire Apparatus, LLC	Recall: 13V-140
Prevost Car Inc.	Recall: 13E-022

The eighth Meritor vehicle manufacturer, Motor Coach Industries Service Parts, did not agree that their products were defective and provided reasons for that decision. That explanation is also in this investigation file.

MGM identified Autocar, LLC as an aftermarket distributor, however, Autocar, LLC filed a defect report (13V-138) and indicated it would conduct a recall of its vehicles. The remaining MGM customers who purchased the parking brake chambers are retailers, parts distributors, or used the chambers in aftermarket service operations. These purchasers, listed below, informed RMD that they are not conducting recalls on the products being addressed by the manufacturer’s recall. They are not manufacturers that NHTSA can require to make a defect decision or recall product.

American Fleet Supply LLC	Fleetpride	Ogburn's Truck Parts
American Moving Parts	Gillig Corporation	Oshkosh Truck Corporation
Arizona Brake & Clutch, Inc.	Gooch Brake & Equipment	Paccar Parts
Atlanta Safety Brake Service, Inc.	Gregory's Fleet Supply Corp.	PBS Brake & Supply Corp.
Aurora Parts	GWP Holdings LLC	Perfection Equipment
Betts Truck Parts	Heavy Duty Parts	Pierce Manufacturing
Brake Systems Inc.	Heavy Vehicle Parts Group, USA	Point Spring & Driveshaft Co
Capitol Clutch & Brake, Inc.	Humphrey Service & Parts Inc.	San Antonio Brake-Clutch
Cargotec Solutions LLC	Inland Truck Parts Company	San Diego Friction Products
Carquest Auto Parts	MCI Service Parts	Six Robblees
Catco	Midway Truck Parts	Southern Coach Parts Company
Crane Carrier	Muncie Transit Supply	Truck & Trailer Supply
Cross Truck Equipment	Nabi, Inc.	Truck Parts & Equipment
Drive Train Industries	Neopart	Truckpro
Dutch Gosnell Mfg. & Supply	New Life Transport Parts Center	Utility Trailer
Fleet Concepts Of Charleston	Northern Virginia Supply	Vanguard National Trailer

## RECALL MANAGEMENT DIVISION ACTION

All vehicle and replacement equipment manufacturers have been identified and have either filed recall reports and are conducting recalls, or have provided responses explaining why they do not believe products they manufactured are defective. Any remaining purchasers are parts distributors, retailers, or used the chambers in aftermarket service operations, that do not have recall responsibilities. Accordingly, this equipment query is closed.