



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 12-008

Date Opened: 03/22/2012

Investigator: Ric Willard

Approver: Frank Borris

Subject: Engine compartment fires

Date Closed: 10/11/2012

Reviewer: Bruce York-B

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Navistar, Inc.

Products: 2007 - 2010 MY International 3200 IM buses

Population: 263

Problem Description: A fire can erupt in the engine compartment area near the transmission resulting from inadvertent application of the parking brake.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	0	0	0
Crashes/Fires:	3	3	3
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This Preliminary Evaluation has been closed. (Recall 12V-479)

Summary:

ODI became aware of three bus fires that originated in the area of the transmission on the subject vehicles through media reports. Inspection of the vehicles indicated that the static parking brake, which is located behind the transmission, may have been applied as a result of an air leak while the vehicles were in motion. Under certain driving conditions, the parking brake can apply without the audible driver warning engaging. Parking brake application while the vehicle is in motion may result in a fire.

To address the concerns of this investigation, Navistar has issued a recall (12V-479) that will add a switch to detect parking brake lever movement while the vehicle is in motion (in addition to the existing switch that monitors brake line air pressure) and set an additional warning light to warn the driver of application of the parking brake. Navistar's recall actions address the issues raised by this investigation and as a result this investigation is closed.