



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

**Investigation:** PE 12-014  
**Date Opened:** 06/14/2012  
**Investigator:** Nate Seymour  
**Approver:** Frank Borris  
**Subject:** Wheel-End Failures

**Date Closed:** 10/11/2012  
**Reviewer:** Bruce York-B

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** KAUFMAN TRAILERS, INC.  
**Products:** 2011 Kaufman Flatbed Trailers  
**Population:** 302

**Problem Description:** Certain 2011 Kaufman trailers equipped with 10,000 pound axles may experience wheel-end failures.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
<b>Complaints:</b>	1	1	1**
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	2	2	2**
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Other*:</b>	0	14	14

\*Description of Other: Warranty Claims

\*\* Total eliminates duplicates received by ODI and manufacturer.

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** This Preliminary Evaluation has been closed. (Recall 12V-410)

### Summary:

On June 14, 2012 the Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) opened a Preliminary Evaluation (PE12-014) to assess the risks associated with wheel-end failures causing wheel separation on certain Model Year (MY) 2011 Kaufman Flatbed Trailers.

Following discussions with ODI concerning manufacturer records, consumer complaints, interviews, and the risk to the public resulting from a wheel separation event, Kaufman decided to submit recall notice 12V-410 on the subject trailers. This recall decision was made prior to submitting its response to ODI's information request letter, and ODI believes it has sufficient information to close its investigation. Therefore ODI relieved Kaufman of its requirement to submit a response. Kaufman's recall actions address the issues raised by this investigation and as a result this investigation is closed.