U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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Investigation: PE 12-024
Date Opened: 08/17/2012 **Date Closed:** 09/13/2012
Investigator: Robert Young **Reviewer:** Bruce York-B
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: Aux. Brake Failure - Adaptive Equipment

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Automotive Innovations, Inc.
Products: Automotive Innovations Electronic Gas/Brake
Population: 36

Problem Description: Emergency brake system not equipped with a malfunction warning device

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	1	1	1**
Crashes/Fires:	1	1	1**
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0

** Total eliminates duplicates received by ODI and manufacturer.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Recall - 12E-034 - Close this PE

Summary:

The subject electronic gas/brake system allows vehicle operation by a driver's hands instead of their feet and is equipped with a redundant (auxiliary) brake system so that a failure of the primary braking system does not result in a total loss of brakes. The cited incident involved a situation where the driver was unaware that auxiliary system was malfunctioning and, when the primary system failed, she was unable to stop the vehicle. The recall will remedy this issue by retrofitting system-equipped vehicles with a warning protocol to alert drivers that the auxiliary system is fully operational.

The recall (12E-034) was submitted after agency discussions with Automotive Innovations Inc. staff and before an Information Request letter was sent.