U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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Investigation: PE 12-037
Date Opened: 12/07/2012 **Date Closed:** 06/06/2013
Investigator: Peter Kivett **Reviewer:** Bruce York-B
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: Loss of Emergency Power & Accessories

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: ROAD RESCUE, INC.
Products: 2008 Road Rescue EV Ambulance
Population: 8

Problem Description: Intermittent failure of lights, sirens, and life support equipment for the rear patient compartment while in operation.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

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

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This Preliminary Evaluation is closed with a Safety Recall 13V-213.

Summary:

On December 7, 2012 the Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) opened a Preliminary Evaluation (PE) on 2008 Model Year (MY) Road Rescue EV Ambulances. The PE was opened to determine whether a loss of emergency power and accessories to the patient cab area creates an unreasonable risk to patients or emergency personnel.

By letter dated May 17, 2013, Wheeled Coach Industries, Inc. notified ODI that it had initiated a safety recall (NHTSA Recall No. 13V-213) to address a safety defect in the vehicles subject to this investigation. According to Wheeled Coach, a failure of the master power disconnect switch can occur, which terminates flow of 12vDC electrical service to the ambulance patient cab. Failure of the programming in the primary multiplex node can affect portions of 12vDC electrical service, including a complete loss of power to the ambulance patient cab. In the event of a failure, the accessory electrical functions such as siren, warning lights and interior patient compartment lights may be intermittent or fail to operate. Wheeled Coach has informed ODI that the chassis function and drivability are not affected.

Wheeled Coach's recall action addresses the issues raised by this investigation and, as a result, this investigation is closed.