



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

Memorandum

Subject: VOQ 10487624 owner documentation of fuel leak

Date: April 26, 2013

From: Bob Young - ODI

To: Public File - PE12-036

Following up on the referenced VOQ, ODI contacted the owner of a MY2006 BMW R1200 RT (one of the subject models in this PE). Subsequently, he provided a video of the leak condition with the fuel system pressurized when the ignition was turned on. Photos were also provided documenting the leak location...at the interface between the in-tank fuel pump housing and its output quick connect nipple...precisely the situation we are investigating in PE12-036.



Photo 1 - Motorcycle documented in VOQ 10487624

1.0 THE INCIDENT

On 12-6-12, at 27,658 miles, while the bike was parked in his garage, the owner reports his motorcycle leaked a substantial amount of fuel shortly after he started the engine. In his VOQ, filed on 12-7-12, he states:

"I started the motorcycle engine. A few seconds after it started, gasoline started to gush from the front of the bike onto the engine. Before I knew it, I was in a puddle of gasoline. I shut it off as soon as I realized what was happening. I mopped up the gasoline off of the floor to eliminate the fire danger. I locked the steering and put the key away after that."

2.0 ODI FOLLOWUP

Subsequently we contacted the owner to learn more. He told us that, after learning that he would have to replace the entire pump assembly at a cost of approximately \$350.00, he decided he would attempt a repair by topically applying an epoxy paste over the cracked pump/nipple interface.

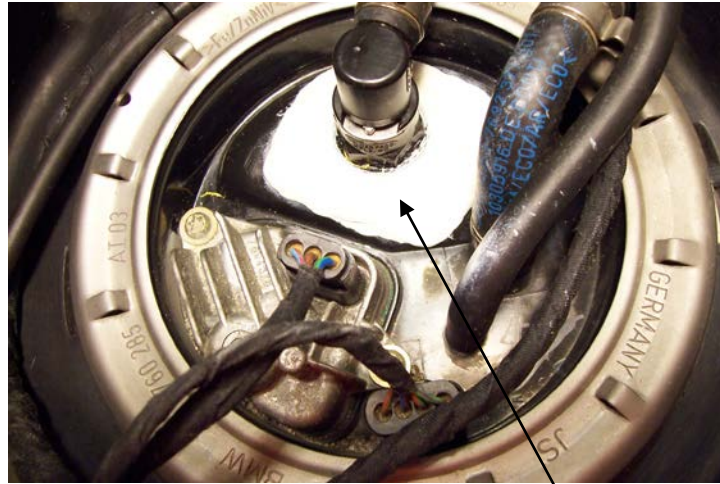


Photo 1 - Owner's attempted epoxy repair

The owner claims that at no time was the nipple manipulated prior to, or during, the repair. Unfortunately, the repair failed and the "leak" remained as before. With that, the owner stopped using the motorcycle.

3.0 OWNER VIDEO

At our request, the owner agreed to videotape the "leak". Since the fuel system is pressurized anytime the ignition is on and the engine starter engaged, actually starting the engine was not necessary. The owner's narrated video is attached to this memo.