U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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Investigation: EQ 12-009
Prompted by: 12E-026
Date Opened: 08/13/2012
Investigator: Alexander Ansley
Approver: Jennifer Timian
Subject: John Deere Engine Turbocharger Failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: DEERE & COMPANY

Products: Model# 6081HFN04, Manufactured June 2002 - Jan 2008

Population: 5,000 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Certain John Deere 8.1 liter compressed natural gas engines may experience a failure in the engine turbocharger, which can result in fire and stalling.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open EQ

Summary:

On July 9, 2012, Deere & Company notified the NHTSA that it had decided certain John Deere 8.1 liter compressed natural gas engines, manufactured from June 2002 through January 2008, contain a safety related defect. Failures can occur within the engine turbocharger. The turbine or compressor wheel may fail, resulting in subsequent damage to the engine and/or an oil leak. Failure of the turbine or compressor wheel may result in smoke, fire and stalling. This issue was assigned recall number 12E-026.

Deere & Company has not yet supplied the following information pertinent to its recall: a count of the engines that are potentially defective with this turbocharger failure, a remedy plan for this recall, a notification schedule for when purchasers will be notified, and a list of purchasers that used these engines as original equipment in motor vehicles.

The purpose of this EQ is to write to Deere & Company to gather the above missing information, and to contact any other companies that might have purchased this equipment, notify them of this defect in any vehicles they manufactured, and to ensure thorough safety recalls are conducted where appropriate.