U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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Investigation: EQ 13-001
Prompted by: 13E-011
Date Opened: 04/25/2013 **Date Closed:** 07/12/2013
Investigator: Cynthia Glass
Approver: Jennifer Timian
Subject: Brake Master Cylinder Failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Robert Bosch LLC
Products: Hydro-max master cylinder
Population: 4,365

Problem Description: The brake fluid level indicator may fail and the driver may be unaware that the brake fluid level is low. A low brake fluid level may reduce the available braking force which could lengthen the required stopping distance and increase the risk of a crash.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This EQ investigation is closed.

Summary:

The summary for this investigation is provided in a separate attachment to this resume.
This equipment query is closed.

EQ 13-001: Recall #13E-011 Bosch Master Cylinder Reduced Braking Force
Closing Resume Summary
11July2013

BACKGROUND

In a letter dated February 20, 2013, Navistar, Inc. (Navistar) notified the NHTSA that it decided a defect exists in certain Model Year (MY) 2011-2012 Workhorse W42 and MY 2011-2012 Workhorse W62 vehicles manufactured from July 18, 2011 through July 12, 2012. According to Navistar's filing, Navistar received communication from Robert Bosch, LLC indicating that the brake fluid level indicator may not properly detect a low brake fluid level condition and may not warn the driver. NHTSA assigned recall number 13V-054 to this matter.

In a letter dated February 25, 2013, Robert Bosch, LLC (Bosch) notified the NHTSA that it decided a defect exists in certain Hydro-Max master cylinders with a 2.0 inch bore and an 84 cubic inch reservoir containing a brake fluid level indicator switch and without a differential pressure switch, manufactured between July 1, 2011 and April 12, 2012. According to Bosch's filing, the Hydro-Max master cylinders may experience a reduction in hydraulic pressure causing a reduction in the available braking force. A reduction in braking force can cause an increase in stopping distance and a vehicle crash may occur. Bosch provided a purchaser list identifying 6 purchasers including vehicle manufacturers, other original equipment manufacturers and service parts distributors and retailers. NHTSA assigned recall number 13E-011 to this matter.

On April 25, 2013, the Recall Management Division (RMD) opened this Equipment Query (EQ) Investigation in order to write the companies that purchased these Hydro-Max master cylinders, to notify them of this defect in any vehicle they manufactured, and to ensure thorough safety recalls are conducted where appropriate. An Information Request (IR) letter was sent to the purchasers of Bosch's Hydro-Max master cylinders on April 30, 2013.

INFORMATION REQUEST RESPONSE

Navistar filed a 573 Recall Report (13V-054) prior to the opening of this EQ investigation. RMD mailed letters to the remaining five Bosch purchasers. Each was notified of Bosch's defect decision, and was requested to respond with either a defect decision and report, or an explanation as to why a defect decision was not being made.

In response, 3 purchasers filed defect reports and indicated that they would conduct a recall: Dorman Products (13E-024); Affina Global Brake and Chassis, also known as Brake Parts, Inc. (13E-026); and, Centric Parts (13E-027).

The remaining 2 purchasers, General Motors Customer Care and After Sales, and UpTime, LLC, filed responses explaining that they did not install the Hydro-Max master cylinders as original equipment and the parts were purchased as service parts. They informed RMD that they are not conducting recalls on the products addressed in Bosch's recall. These responses are located in this investigation file.

RECALL MANAGEMENT DIVISION ACTION

All vehicle and replacement equipment manufacturers have been identified and have either filed recall reports and are conducting recalls, or have provided responses explaining why they are not conducting recalls. Accordingly, this equipment query investigation is closed.