



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 13-004
Date Opened: 03/05/2013
Investigator: Ric Willard **Reviewer:** Bruce York-B
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: Coolant Leak Resulting in Occupant Burns

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: DAIMLER COMMERCIAL BUSES NA
Products: 2011 - 2012 Orion VII Transit Buses
Population: 170 (Estimated)
Problem Description: A significant amount of hot coolant can unexpectedly come in contact with transit bus passengers resulting in burns and other injuries.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	1	TBD	1
Crashes/Fires:	0	TBD	TBD
Injury Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Injuries:	0	TBD	TBD
Fatality Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Fatalities:	0	TBD	TBD

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open a Preliminary Evaluation (PE).

Summary:

ODI is aware of three (3) incidents of heater hose failures on the delivery circuit (high temperature) of the engine coolant system on the subject vehicles. The failure occurs in the vicinity of the air ducts above the street-side passenger compartment. The air ducts may quickly fill with engine temperature fluids that are expelled without warning onto the seats below. ODI is aware of no injuries at this time.

ODI is opening this investigation in order to gather additional information to assess whether the subject vehicles contain a safety related defect.

The ODI report cited above can be reviewed at www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/complaints under the following identification (ODI) number: 10500221