U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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Investigation: EQ 14-015
Prompted by:
Date Opened: 12/17/2014
Investigator: Cynthia Glass
Approver: Jennifer Timian
Subject: 14E-034

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: LiquidSpring LLC
Products: LiquidSpring Aftermarket Chassis
Population: 235

Problem Description: The mounting bracket for the suspension's fluid tank may fail resulting in the fluid tank falling from the vehicle onto the roadway.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This EQ investigation is opened.

Summary:

In a letter dated July 1, 2014, LiquidSpring LLC, (LiquidSpring), notified the NHTSA that it decided a defect exists in certain aftermarket CLASS DS96F-A, DS96F-M and DS96F-MC suspensions for Ford E-450 chassis; DS120F-A and DS120FA10 suspensions for Ford F-450 chassis; DS137F-A and DS137F-A10 suspensions for Ford F-550 chassis with 18,000lb GVWR; DS147F-B2 suspensions for Ford F-550 chassis with 19,500lb GVWR; and DS96GM-AR, DS96GM-AR12, DS96GM-AM and DS96GM-MR suspensions for Chevrolet G3500/4500 chassis. The mounting bracket that attaches the suspension fluid tank to the frame may fail allowing the fluid tank to separate from the vehicle. If the suspension fluid tank mounting bracket fractures and the tank separates from the chassis, the tank may become a road hazard, increasing the risk of a crash. This matter was assigned recall number 14E-034.

LiquidSpring provided NHTSA with a purchaser list identifying the manufacturers that may have incorporated these suspension fluid tank mounting brackets into their vehicles. However, at this time, a Part 573 Report has not been filed by all of these potentially affected manufacturers.

The purpose of this EQ investigation is to write to the companies that purchased LiquidSprings' suspension fluid tank mounting brackets, notify them of this defect, and ensure thorough safety recalls are conducted where appropriate.