U.S. Department of Transportation

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

# ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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**Investigation:** PE 14-007
**Date Opened:** 03/20/2014
**Investigator:** Robert Young **Reviewer:** Bruce York-B
**Approver:** Frank Borris
**Subject:** Front Brake Malfunction - Motorcycle

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** Westward Industries
**Products:** 2013 Westward GO-4
**Population:** 500 (Estimated)

**Problem Description:** Loss of brake effectiveness caused by front brake pad ejection from the brake caliper.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

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

***Description of Other:** Undated technical service bulletin issued by Westward Industries.

Note: The single complaint was filed by a municipal fleet of 49 vehicles experiencing one failure.

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** Open a Preliminary Evaluation (PE)

**Summary:**

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) was contacted by municipal fleet manager of 49 GO-4 three-wheeled parking enforcement vehicles (subject vehicles). The contact forwarded an undated Technical Service Bulletin (TSB), released by Westwood Industries, Inc., concerning a front brake disc modification in the subject vehicles. One of the modifications identified in the TSB decreased the gap between the brake rotor and caliper. According to the fleet manager, worn brake pads can be ejected through this gap resulting in a loss of front brake effectiveness and reported that one of their vehicles experienced this failure.

ODI is opening this preliminary evaluation to evaluate Westwood's TSB and assess the risk, scope, and frequency of the alleged defect.

The ODI report cited above can be reviewed at http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/owners/SearchNHTSAID under the following complaint identification number: 10566532