



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

**Investigation:** PE 14-008  
**Date Opened:** 03/20/2014  
**Investigator:** Nate Seymour                      **Reviewer:** Bruce York-B  
**Approver:** Frank Borris  
**Subject:** Brake Lining Contamination

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** PALOMINO RV, Forest River, Inc.  
**Products:** 2013-14 Forest River Columbus 5th Wheel Recreational Vehicle  
**Population:** 1,000 (Estimated)

**Problem Description:** Certain owners have reported that the brake shoes installed as original equipment in their Forest River Columbus fifth wheel recreational vehicle, equipped with Lippert electrically-actuated drum brake assemblies, have become contaminated with wheel bearing grease after a short period in service.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
<b>Complaints:</b>	8	18	18**
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	0	0	TBD
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	0	0	TBD
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	0	TBD

\*\* Total eliminates duplicates received by ODI and manufacturer.

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

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

**Summary:**

The office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has identified eight complaints alleging brake lining contamination from wheel bearing grease. Brake linings that have been contaminated with grease may compromise (reduce) the vehicle system stopping distance capability. This condition may (1) pose a risk of extended stopping distances under driving conditions that require high-demand braking performance; and (2) occur without prior warning to the operator.

ODI has contacted each of the identified complainants and verified their report.

The ODI reports cited above can be reviewed at <http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/owners/SearchNHTSAID> under the following complaint identification numbers: 10546092, 10560304, 10561961, 10563621, 10563591, 10564143, 10563464, 10567696