



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 15-032
Date Opened: 09/28/2015
Investigator: Peter Kivett **Reviewer:** Bruce York-B
Approver: Jennifer Timian
Subject: Wheel bearing failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Isuzu Manufacturing Services of America
Products: MY2012-2015 Isuzu N-Series Trucks
Population: 35,400 (Estimated)
Problem Description: Premature wheel bearing failure, increasing the risk for loss of vehicle control and a crash.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	0	0	0
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
Other*:	16	Confidential	Confidential

*Description of Other: Field Reports

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This Preliminary Evaluation is opened

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigations (ODI) is opening this Preliminary Evaluation (PE) based on field reports submitted by Isuzu during quarterly Early Warning Reporting (EWR) updates. Isuzu submitted field reports describing wheel bearing failures resulting in front wheel lock-up and loose hub assemblies in model year (MY) 2012-2015 N-Series trucks. Approximately three quarters of the reports identify wheel bearing failures prior to the first required maintenance interval at 30,000 miles. The N-Series is a class 3, 4, and 5 cab-over truck that is used for small businesses and available in a variety of body platforms.

NHTSA staff visited Isuzu dealers to interview service managers and technicians. The dealer staff were aware of the problem and technicians indicated subject Isuzu trucks had been brought in with bearings showing signs of excessive heat.

This Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the scope and safety related risk associated with the alleged defect.