U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

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Investigation: AQ 16-001
Prompted by:
Date Opened: 04/13/2016
Investigator: Arija Flowers **Reviewer:** Jennifer Timian
Approver: Otto Matheke
Subject: HCI Helmet Recalls

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer:	Helmet City, Inc.
Products:	HCI 100 and HCI 115 Recalls
Population:	1,170 (Estimated)
Problem Description:	Investigation into the timeliness and scope of reporting non-compliant model 100 and 115 HCI helmets as well as HCI's compliance with other reporting requirements under the Safety Act and related regulations.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open Audit Query (AQ)

Summary:

On February 2, 2016, Helmet City, Inc. ("HCI") submitted two Part 573 Safety Recall Reports (DIR) to NHTSA describing a non-compliance in HCI helmet model 100 (sizes M and XL), Recall 16E-008, and model 115 (size XL), recall 16E-010. HCI reported that these recalls affected approximately 1,170 helmets in total (900 in recall 16E-008 and 270 in recall 16E-010). On September 23, 2015, NHTSA sent HCI reports showing testing failures for model 100 (sizes M and XL) and model 115 (size XL) now subject to recall.

The purpose of this AQ is to investigate the timeliness of HCI's non-compliance determination and the scope of the 2016 recalls. It is also to investigate and review HCI's compliance with reporting requirements based on HCI's refusal to answer questions posed in Information Request letters issued September 23, 2015, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30166 regarding the HCI 100 and 115.

This audit query (AQ) is being opened to investigate the timing and scope of HCI's non-compliance determination, as well as HCI's compliance with reporting requirements under the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.