



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

**Investigation:** PE 20-002  
**Date Opened:** 04/01/2020  
**Investigator:** Peter Kivett **Reviewer:** Bruce York-B  
**Approver:** Stephen Ridella  
**Subject:** Brake fluid leaks from front caliper

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** BMW of North America, LLC  
**Products:** 2019-2020 R1250  
**Population:** 4,827  
**Problem Description:** Brake fluid leakage can result in reduced braking performance, increasing the risk of a crash.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
<b>Complaints:</b>	6	0	6
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	0	0
<b>Other*:</b>	0	1	1

\*Description of Other: BMW Service Bulletin MC64756713

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** This (PE) Preliminary Evaluation is opened.

### Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) is opening this Preliminary Evaluation (PE) on 2019-2020 Model Year BMW R1250 motorcycles to investigate allegations of brake fluid leaking from the front brake caliper. A brake fluid leak can result in reduced braking performance and increase the risk of a crash.

NHTSA has received 6 consumer complaints alleging brake fluid leaks from the front calipers on the subject motorcycles. Many of the consumers have provided photographs showing brake fluid on the wheels and tires of the bike. Consumers allege BMW dealerships and/or road side service advise them not to ride the bike if a brake fluid leak exists. Other consumers allege they have noticed a reduction in braking performance and the ability to slow the bike.

On June 17th, 2019 BMW released service bulletin (MC64756713) that provides instruction on how to inspect the subject motorcycles for leaking front brake calipers and repair if necessary.

To better understand the frequency and severity of brake fluid leaks on the subject motorcycles, this Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

The ODI reports cited above can be reviewed at:

<http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/owners/SearchNHTSAID>

using the following complaint identification numbers: 11300025, 11301282, 11302651, 11308930, 11308994, 11311740.