



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 21-011
Date Opened: 05/13/2021
Investigator: Ryan Rahimpour
Approver: Stephen Ridella
Subject: Alternator Front Bearing Failure
Reviewer: Joshua Neff

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Prevost Cars, Inc.
Products: MY 2015-2019 Prevost X3 and H3 buses
Population: 1,795 (Estimated)
Problem Description: An alternator front bearing fails, elevating the temperature within the engine compartment, resulting in activation of the fire suppression system which shuts down the bus.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

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

*Description of Other: EWR Field Reports.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open this Preliminary Evaluation (PE).

Summary:

NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) is opening a Preliminary Evaluation after receiving a tip from a fleet safety manager concerning alternator front bearing failures that cause elevated temperatures within the engine compartment, resulting in the fire suppression system (FSS) activating, immediately shutting the engine down, and rendering the bus inoperable.

Review of Early Warning Reporting Data identified 9 field reports for Model Year (MY)2015 through MY2019 H3 and X3 Prevost buses, describing alternator failures in any of 3 alternators equipped on the bus. In some cases, a minor fire occurred damaging nearby electrical harnesses.

An immediate shut down of the bus can increase the risk of a crash or injury of passengers when transferring to another bus.

ODI is opening this investigation to evaluate the cause, consequence, scope and frequency of the alleged defect in the subject Prevost buses.