U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

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Investigation: PE 21-014
Date Opened: 07/02/2021
Investigator: Samuel Wilson **Reviewer:** Bruce York-B
Approver: Stephen Ridella
Subject: Chocking on / Ingestion of Car Seat Foam

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Columbus Trading-Partners USA, Inc.
Products: Cybex 2018 Sirona M Child Seat
Population: 19,702 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Child car seat head rest foam exposure, potentially allowing children to remove pieces and ingest them.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	2	15	17
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open a Preliminary Evaluation

Summary:

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) Trends Analysis Division identified 15 Early Warning Reporting (EWR) Death & Injury (D&I) reports alleging injuries involving production year 2018 Cybex Sirona M car (child) seats. According to the reports, child occupants were able to access a foam material, used in the seat headrest, via an opening in its covering material. The children subsequently placed the foam in their mouths thereby resulting in coughing, gagging, vomiting, or passed by means of bowel movements. No fatalities have been reported.

In addition to the D&I reports, ODI has received four Vehicle Owner Questionnaire (VOQ) reports from two complainants involving the 2018 Cybex Sirona M car seat. Like the D&I reports, the VOQs also express concern for the same alleged defect, that the foam in the car seat headrest was accessible to child occupants through its covering material leading to potential ingestion. Three of the four reports were submitted by the same complainant who owned two subject car seats. No injuries are alleged in these reports.

ODI is opening this investigation to evaluate the scope, frequency, and consequence of the alleged defect in the subject 2018 Cybex Sirona M car seat. The VOQs cited above can be reviewed at NHTSA.gov under the reference (ODI) numbers 11113133 and 11150030. VOQs 11150031 & 11150032 are duplicative of ODI 11150030.