U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
NHTSA
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Investigation: PE 23-009
Date Opened: 05/26/2023
Investigator: Jonathan Harrison **Reviewer:** Joshua Neff
Approver: Stephen Ridella
Subject: TPMS breaks, causing Deflation

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: RViBrake
Products: RViBrake Tire Patrol sensors produced from 2018 to 2023
Population: 95,499

Problem Description: Valve stem-mounted tire pressure sensors can break, causing tire deflation with no notice to the vehicle operator.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	1	Confidential	Confidential
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

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) received a consumer complaint alleging a rapid loss of steer-axle tire pressure, in-transit, when one of their aftermarket accessory RViBrake Tire Patrol sensors suddenly came apart. In discussions with RViBrake, NHTSA learned that many Tire Patrol sensors had been returned for "leaking pressure," a portion of which had come completely apart. A review of the RViBrake website shows similar complaints of deflating tires after sensor failures. According to the company president, an updated design is due soon, but there was no discussion about what would be done for the units already sold.

This Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to evaluate the issue and determine whether the alleged defect creates an unreasonable risk to highway safety.

The ODI report cited above can be viewed at www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/owners/Search NHTSA ID under the following identification number (ODI #): 11478506