U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

OVSC RESUME

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Investigation: RQ 23-001
Date Opened: 03/22/2023
Investigator: Manuel Maldonado **Reviewer:** Claudia Covell
Approver: Otto Matheke
Subject: Certification, Recall Scope, Timeliness

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Proterial Cable America, Inc.
Products: Brake Hose Assemblies Subject to Recall No. 22E-061
Population: 5,972,187

Problem Description: Timeliness and scope of Recall No. 22E-061, which covers noncompliant brake hose assemblies manufactured by Proterial Cable America, Inc. (PCA), formerly known as Hitachi Cable America Inc (HCA), from 2007-2022. Examination of the basis of certification for the brake hose assemblies.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	OVSC	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

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Recall Query has been opened.

Summary:

On July 27, 2022, Hitachi Cable America Inc. (HCA), now known as Proterial Cable America, Inc. (PCA), filed a Part 573 Noncompliance Information Report (recall report) and amended its filing four times and as recently as November 16, 2022 (Recall No. 22E-061). HCA's recall report recalled 5,972,187 brake hose assemblies sold as original equipment, service parts, or customization kits for use in motorcycles manufactured by Harley-Davidson, Inc. based on a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 106, Brake hoses. Harley-Davidson, Inc. also subsequently filed a corresponding recall on August 9, 2022 (Recall No. 22V-608). HCA's recall report described the noncompliances for the population of brake hose assemblies as consisting of various performance noncompliances: whip, water absorption whip, brake fluid compatibility, and high temperature impulse test.

In its July 27, 2022 recall report, HCA initially limited the recall population to an unspecified number of hoses manufactured between May 2, 2022 and July 16, 2022. On October 18, 2022, HCA expanded the recall to include over 5.9 million brake hose assemblies manufactured since February 28, 2007. The chronology HCA submitted with its recall report includes information on repeated test failures.

This RQ will investigate the timeliness of HCA's brake hose assembly recall and HCA's compliance with reporting requirements. The RQ will also investigate the scope of the recall due to HCA supplying potentially similar parts to numerous manufacturers. Noncompliant brake hose assemblies can lead to loss of brake function on a vehicle, and consequently, a vehicle crash. HCA and Harley-Davidson have filed petitions asserting that the noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety, which remain pending. The RQ will also investigate HCA's basis for certifying

the brake hose assemblies as compliant with FMVSS 106.