



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 04-014
 Prompted By: Fleet Complaint
 Date Opened: 02/05/2004 Date Closed: 06/24/2004
 Principal Investigator: Tom Bowman
 Subject: Steering Binding

Manufacturer: Volvo Trucks North America, Inc.
 Products: 1998-1999 Volvo VN and VHD VTNA Vehicles
 Population: 38152

Problem Description: Steering binding due to turn signal canceling ring breaking and jamming.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	3	1	4
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	13	13

*Description of Other: Warranty Claims

Action: Upgrade this PE to an Engineering Analysis.

Engineer: Thomas Bowman

Date: 06/24/2004

Div. Chief: Richard Boyd

Date: 06/24/2004

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 06/24/2004

Summary: ODI'S Preliminary Evaluation focused on the potential for a broken, bent, deformed, fragmented or displaced turn Signal Canceling Ring ("TSCR"), VTNA Part Number 1607363, to restrict the vehicle operator's ability to turn the steering wheel.

The PE identified thirteen VTNA warranty claims that allege that the TSCR had "failed" and that the vehicle steering effort had been adversely affected. To date, ODI has not found any samples of a "failed" TSCR and has not been able to definitely establish whether a "failed" TSCR can or cannot contribute to increased steering effort.

ODI believes that it is appropriate to conduct further investigation (EA level) to better understand the characteristics of TSCR "failures" and to assess the effect, if any, that these types of failures could have on vehicle steering effort.

SENT VTNA
336-393-3037
6/25/04
MFB