



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 04-009
 Prompted By: RQ03-009
 Date Opened: 03/17/2004 Date Closed: 11/24/2004
 Principal Investigator: Tom Bowman
 Subject: Wheel Separations

Manufacturer: Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc.
 Products: 2002-2004 Fleetwood Fifth Wheel and Travel Trailers
 Population: 3426

Problem Description: Wheel separations due to loss of wheel retention clamp.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	1	66	67
Crashes/Fires:	0	2	2
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

*Description of Other:

Action: Close this Engineering Analysis. Fleetwood has submitted a Safety Defect Report. Full details are included in the attached 33 page technical report.

Engineer: Thomas Bowman

Date: 11/24/2004

Div. Chief: Richard Boyd

Date: 11/24/2004

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 11/24/2004

Summary: On June 30, 2004, Fleetwood filed a Defect Notice (04V-310) that outlines a notification and repair program intended to have 2002-2004 model year Fleetwood fifth wheel and travel trailer units equipped with aluminum wheels inspected for the presence of paint and other foreign substances in the clamp joint, especially between the wheel and hub clamp faces, and to inspect for, and correct, any damage that may have occurred to the wheels or hubs due to loosening.

The campaign includes a provision to provide the affected vehicle owners with information about the method and importance of torquing the wheel nuts with a torque wrench as described in the Campaign Notice and in Fleetwood's published Owner's Manual.

ODI expressed concern about the Campaign Program because it asks owners to perform the post-inspection-and-repair torquing of the wheel mounting nuts (at intervals of 10, 25, and 50 miles or until stabilized). To assure that this aspect of the Campaign is completed successfully, ODI has asked Fleetwood to notify ODI of any incidents of wheel separations that occur on Campaign-repaired vehicles whose owners were asked to perform the post-repair nut torque procedure.

FAX
FLEETWOOD
11/24/04
CDB