



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 08-002
 Prompted By: RQ07-002
 Date Opened: 01/04/2008
 Principal Investigator: John Abbott
 Subject: Engine Cooling Fan Blade Fracture

Manufacturer: Winnebago Industries, Inc., Volkswagen of America, Inc.
 Products: 2001- 04 Winnebago Rialta, Vista, Sunstar; 2001-03 Eurovan
 Population: 17,000 (est.)

Problem Description: Separation of the blades from the engine's electronic cooling fan.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	7	41	48
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	107	107

*Description Of Other: Warranty

Action: Open Engineering Analysis

Engineer: John Abbott *JAA*
 Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper
 Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary: The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) opened RQ07-002 based on four reports alleging failure of an engine cooling fan in the subject vehicles. Three of the complainants alleged the fan "disintegrated" and two of the three alleged the radiator was damaged as a result. The fourth complainant alleged that his vehicle experienced violent shaking and overheating. When the vehicle was inspected, it was noted that pieces of the fan were missing.

All four vehicles were Class C motor homes built on a Volkswagen Eurovan chassis. Two of the vehicles are "Rialta" models and two are "Vista" models.

Based on additional information received from Volkswagen, ODI is upgrading RQ07-002 to an Engineering Analysis for further study.