



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: RQ 07-003
 Date Opened: 12/05/2007 Date Closed: 03/26/2008
 Principal Investigator: Tom Bowman
 Subject: Front Wheel Separation

Manufacturer: Freightliner LLC
 Products: 2001-08 MY Acterra, FLN & M2 B'Class & FS65, FB65, B2 Chass
 Population: 28,764

Problem Description: Front wheel separation due to low lubricant and/or loss of lubricant leading to wheel bearing failure.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	0	0	0
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	Confidential	Confidential

*Description of Other: Wheel separations reported in 2007 monitoring program.

Action: This investigation is closed. Freightliner is conducting a recall. See campaign 08V-137.

Engineer: Thomas Bowman Date: 03/26/2007
 Div. Chief: Richard Boyd Date: 03/26/2007
 Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter Date: 03/26/2007

Summary: ODI is closing this investigation based on Daimler truck North America 's (DTNA) March 19, 2008, defect notification report which outlines DTNA's intention to campaign 28,764 Freightliner, Sterling, and Freightliner custom chassis vehicles [equipped with either arvinmeritor or axle alliance company 6,000 - 8,000 pound rated front axle assemblies utilizing a four piece spindle nut set] manufactured between January 26, 2000, and March 24, 2008.

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DTNA has proposed providing a remedy for the currently installed four piece spindle nut systems which "may lead to incorrect end play, [bearing] cone spin, excessive heat, degradation of lubrication, wear of the spindle nut [backface] and bearing journal, oil contamination with metal shavings, and premature bearing failure. Continued operation may lead to a wheel separation."

ODI has relieved DTNA of the responsibility to provide the information requested as part of this RQ so that DTNA could focus their efforts on investigation of the wheel separation issues and planning and implementing a responsive and timely field action (campaign).