



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

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION



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Investigation: DP 12-001
Prompted by: Consumer Letter
Date Opened: 01/20/2012
Investigator: Robert Young
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: M/C final drive ball bearing failure
Date Closed: 06/20/2013
Reviewer: Bruce York-B

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: BMW of North America, LLC
Products: 1998-2009 BMW K1200LT
Population: 15,413

Problem Description: Final Drive Crown Gear Ball Bearing Assembly progressive failure resulting in gear oil loss and/or bearing destruction with consequent rear wheel looseness.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	122	0	122
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
Other*:	70	0	70

*Description of Other: 70 complaints at BMWFinalDrive.com / Manufacturer reports were not obtained.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: The petition is denied.

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) received a defect petition requesting that it open an investigation into model year (MY) 1998-2009 BMW KLT series motorcycles for final drive bearing failures. The petitioner asked NHTSA to issue an order that [BMW] be required to recall the affected models for inspection of component wear and proper assembly of the [final drive] bearing.

ODI has reviewed the petition, assessed relevant consumer complaints, and gathered other data in the course of investigating this issue.

Based on its review, ODI does not believe that a safety-related defect trend currently exists for final drive bearing failures in the subject motorcycles. Therefore, in view of the need to allocate and prioritize NHTSA's limited resources to accomplish the agency's safety mission, the petition is denied. However, the agency will continue to monitor information related to this issue and will take further action if warranted.

For detailed information, see the Federal Register notice: <https://federalregister.gov/a/2013-13779>.