

Unsafe Aftermarket Steering columns

August 9, 2013 - Yogi's Inc.

You may have read an article in the July 2013 Street Scene Magazine (page 17) about quality concerns and failures of aftermarket steering columns manufactured in Asian countries – particularly China. The article describes problems with poor quality welding of steering shaft sections, poorly designed tilt mechanisms which are not “fail-safe” by design, and poor quality materials used within the tilt mechanisms. In the Street Scene article, a report from New Zealand’s Low Volume Vehicle Technical Institute (LVVTA) reported failures of these poorly manufactured steering columns that had actually caused complete loss of steering control!

We wanted to bring this to your attention because here at Yogi's we only sell high quality parts that we would use in our own vehicles. When these columns came to the US market several years ago, we evaluated them and decided not to sell them. To date, we have only sold steering columns that are made in America from quality materials that employ fail-safe design features.



Collapsed remains of the plastic tilt mechanism in a “Helix” column which caused complete steering failure.

Have a look at the LVVTA report, which contains a list of manufacturers producing these poor quality columns, and let us know if you have concerns about a column you may have in your vehicle.

“Two yoke” GM-style fail-safe tilt mechanism, found in American made columns, but not in the failing overseas manufactured columns.

