

Safety Bulletin



HET DOOR OIF SB-006



Reports indicate that operators sitting inside some Level II armored HETs have great difficulty opening their doors and in some cases cannot open them at all from the inside. They have to reach out of their window to open the door from the outside. This coupled with the added stress of being under attack just makes the situation worse. If these doors are not functioning properly the vehicle should be dead lined until repaired. Minor operator maintenance will correct this problem. A random spot check of doors on HETs revealed some of the following deficiencies:



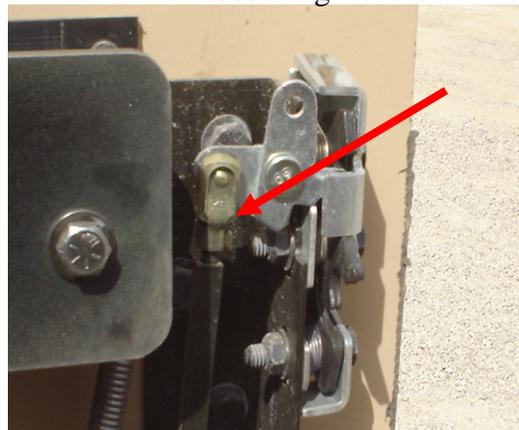
There was great difficulty in opening the doors from inside the vehicle. If under stress, this could prove to be even more difficult.



The door handle was very loose, this bolt was finger tight, it is a shouldered bolt and may require an extra washer and also locktite to prevent the bolt from loosening.



The hardware above was also found to be very loose, and missing a mount bolt.



There is an adjustment on this rod that can be made to ease the opening of the door

The bottom line: Operators need to ensure all required checks are accomplished in accordance with the appropriate TMs. Taking a few minutes to ensure that all hardware is in place, secured, and properly adjusted before you go on a mission will greatly impact your safety and mission performance.