U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

DOT Auto Safety Hotline

Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire

To Report Vehicle Safety Defects
1-888-DASH-2-DOT
(1-888-327-4236)
INTERNET:www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

2008 FEB -1 AM 11:17

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100148	
Date Received 15-SEP-2006	**Repository** ☐
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OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name [redacted]		Daytime Telephone Number [redacted]	E-mail Address
Address [redacted]		Evening Telephone Number	
City RICHMOND	**State** CA	**Zip Code** [redacted]	

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? ☐ *YES* ☒ *NO*
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.
Signature of Owner _____ Date __/__/__

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side	Make	Model	Model Year
JKAVNDA196B[redacted]	KAWASAKI	VULCAN	2005

Date Purchased	Dealer's Name and Telephone Number			Engine:	Fuel Type:
23-SEP-05	GOLDEN GATE CYCLES 415 771 4535			No: Cylinders 4	Gas
Original Owner ☒	Dealer's City SAN FRANCISCO	State CA	Zip Code		

Transmission Type		Powertrain	Vehicle Component Code
MANUAL	☐ Antilock Brakes ☐ Cruise Control	REAR WHEEL DRIVE	100000 POWER TRAIN Multiple Failure: 200

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s)	Failure Mileage	Failure Speed	
23-SEP-2005	21	0	

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make	Tire Model (Name or Number)	Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)
DOT No. (Example: DOTMAL9ABC036)	☐ Original Equipment ☐ Prior Repair	Failure Location:
Tire Component Code		Tire Failure Type

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make:	Date Manufactured:	Model No./Name:
Seat Type:	Installation System:	
Child Seat Component Code:	Failed Part:	

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and injury(ies).)

Crash	Fire	Number of Persons Injured	Number of Deaths	Reported to Police
☐ Yes ☒ No	☐ Yes ☒ No			N

Narrative Description of Incident(S), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).
Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e, parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

DT*: THE CONTACT STATED WHILE STARTING THE MOTORCYCLE IN THE MORNING WITHOUT WARNING, THE CLUTCH GRABBED DUE TO A LACK OF LUBRICATION. ~~THE VEHICLE WAS TAKEN TO THE DEALERSHIP WHO PRETENDED TO INSPECT THE VEHICLE~~. THE MANUFACTURER WAS CONTACTED AND DECLARED THAT EVEN IF THERE WERE A DESIGN DEFECT$ IT WOULDN'T BE COVERED UNLESS A RECALL WAS ISSUED. THE CONTACT EXPRESSED CONCERN BECAUSE WINTER WEATHER WOULD MAKE THE PROBLEM WORST. THE MOTORCYCLE MAKE WAS A 2006 KAWASAKI VULCAN 750. I contacted several dealerships that were factory authorized. Each one said I would have to pay for any repair due to design defect. One dealer said I would be charged $90 to inspect and report, regardless of outcome. IE, if he started up the bike and noticed nothing amiss, I would be charged $90 for him to tell me that! I should not have to pay to fix a dangerous design flaw.

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice. ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974-Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a Manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies)

Every time I start my engine from a long rest, the bike jerks ~~on~~ when it starts moving. When I am parked on the street and take off in a turn to enter a lane, this jerking is extremely dangerous. I almost dropped the bike on several occassions when the pavement was wet.

I told one dealership that I had read a number of accounts of accidents posted on the Internet caused by this very problem. One rider emailed me that he fell and broke a bone in his leg because of this. The mechanic merely discounted this as unreliable. It badly seems plausible that a conspiracy would form on a non-existant problem.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could hold manufacturers ~~responsible~~ accountable for their dangerous mistakes!

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use $300

OAKLAND CA 946
07 JUL 2007 PM 5 L

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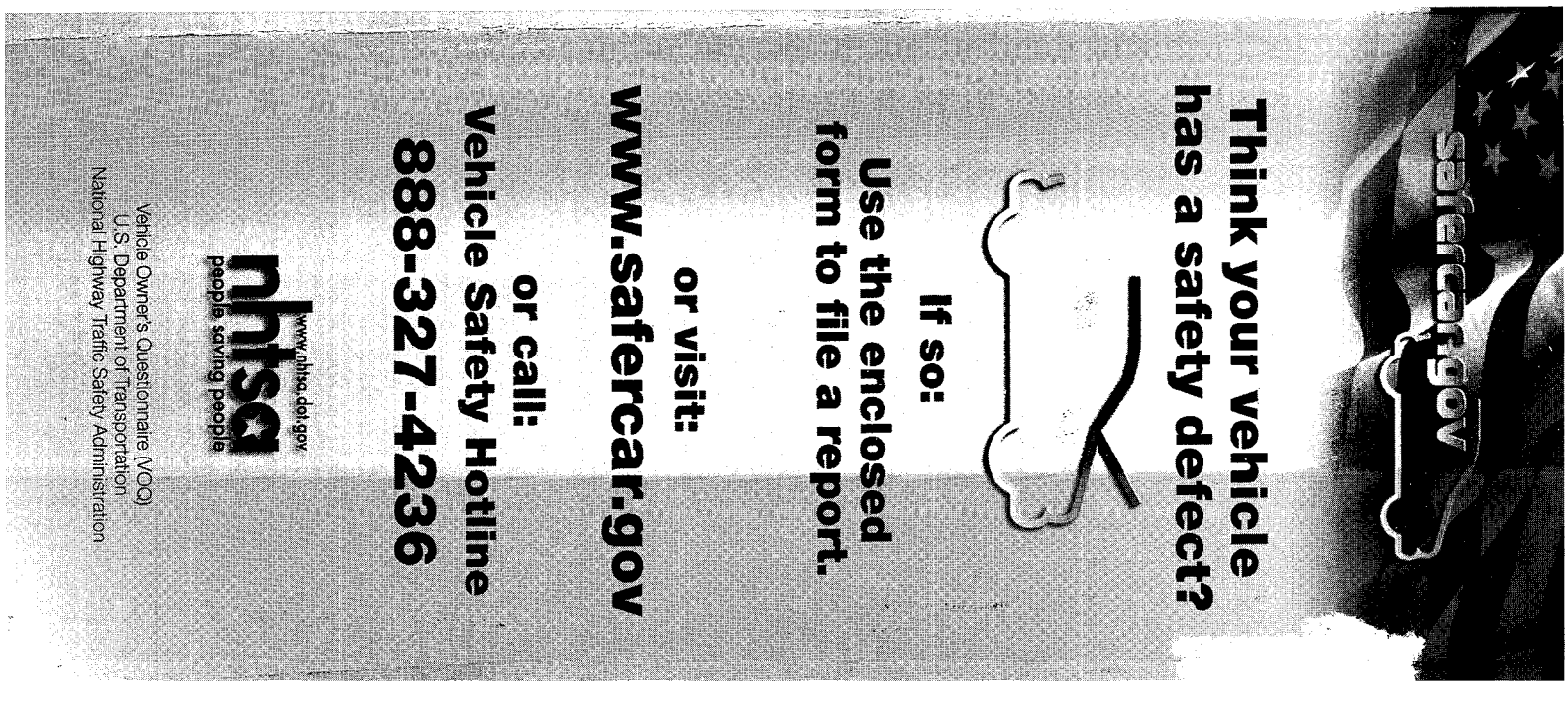
U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
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