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National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
Washington, D.C. 20590

c.c.: Ducati North America, Inc., Myers Ducati

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you as a concerned owner of a brand new 2007 Ducati 1098. When I picked up the motorcycle for the first time from my local Ducati dealership, the salesman and the co-owner of the dealership warned me about a potential "cutting-off habit" that other 1098 owners have already experienced. Upon driving the motorcycle for its first 620 miles, I have experienced this cutting-off habit on several occasions in the following situations:

1. riding on public roads
2. stopping or stopped at stoplights and stop signs
3. pulling out of driveways, intersections, and parking lots
4. parking or parked at gas stations and commercial parking lots
5. parking in my own driving way and in friends' driveways

The common factors that have been present during all the encountered events are these: A) The bike was in neutral, B) the bike was in gear with the clutch disengaged, C) the clutch was in the process of being engaged, and/or D) the bike had reached an operating temperature of 180+ degrees Fahrenheit.

After the first incident, I immediately notified the salesman, the co-owner, and the service manager at the dealership where I bought the bike. The service manager said it would be a simple fix that he would just need to send the ECU to Ducati North America to be remapped. This process was completed during the first scheduled maintenance of the bike. When I picked up my motorcycle, I did not even make it out of the dealership's parking lot before this event occurred again; this time while I was pulling onto a busy four lane highway. Needless to say my motorcycle is still at the dealership and the service manager is still trying to figure out how to fix the problem.

Upon investigating various forum websites such as www.ducati1098.net and calling other Ducati dealerships, I discovered I am not the only person in the U.S.A. experiencing these dangerous events. Myers Ducati in Asheville, Ducati of Charlotte, and Ducati of Atlanta are claiming the problem can be fixed by having the ECU sent to Ducati North America. However, based on my experience and what other 1098 owners are claiming, this is not the solution.

Thank you for your time,

If your agency has any questions or comments I can be reached on my cell at [REDACTED].

AA
7/19/07
CC