



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, DC 20590

April 23, 2009

[REDACTED]

Ojai, CA [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

NVS-216 nlm
Ref. # 10264688

Thank you for your correspondence dated March 30, 2009, concerning the recalled Dill ACP TR-418 tire valve stems in your Mazda Protégé. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation received your correspondence on April 7, 2009.

NHTSA is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. We also monitor the adequacy of manufacturers' recall campaigns. In order for the agency to initiate an investigation, we look carefully at the body of consumer complaints and other available data to determine whether a defect may exist. We cannot act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

We appreciate the report you provided. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. The information you provided has been entered into our database. NHTSA is aware of the recall (NHTSA Campaign No. 08T-028, summary enclosed) concerning the snap-in rubber valve stems manufactured by Dill Air Controls Products. With regard to your assertion that you were never notified of the recall. Federal law requires Dill to notify the most recently known purchaser; in this case that was Sears Automotive. Additional efforts to get information to end users included Dill issuing news releases and a Dill recall specific website, www.tirevalverecall.net. For your convenience the NHTSA website offers a new recall notification feature which offers e-mail notification and Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feed notifications of new recalls. If interested you can sign up at www.safercar.gov.



Should you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment in the future, you can complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq>. Also, a summary listing of vehicle owners' complaints, safety recalls, manufacturers' service bulletins, etc. can be obtained at <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy Reid".

Randy Reid, Chief
Correspondence Research Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement