

October 26, 2010

ISUZU
DET-10-107

Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Early Warning Division (NVS-217)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Foreign Recall Information Report
Seat Belt Retractor
Isuzu 2004MY FORWARD Commercial Vehicles

Dear Mr. Smith:

On behalf of Isuzu Motors Limited (“IML”), pursuant to 49 CFR §579.12, Isuzu Manufacturing Services of America, Inc. (collectively “Isuzu”) hereby submits a Foreign Recall Information Report concerning the foreign safety recall of certain 2004MY Isuzu FORWARD commercial vehicles sold in Japan and other countries listed in Attachment 1 (hereinafter, the “subject vehicles” or the “affected vehicles”).

Two Foreign Recall Information Reports on this foreign recall were previously submitted on December 19, 2008 by DET-08-132 [FRCL-08F118-6097] (hereinafter, the “first Former Recall”) and October 4, 2010 by DET-10-099 [FRCL-10F086-4291] (hereinafter, the “second Former Recall,” and collectively, the “two Former Recalls”). IML has now determined that when it conducted the second Former Recall in order to expand the first Former Recall by broadening the inclusive manufacturing dates of the affected vehicles (as reported to NHTSA on October 4, 2010), IML neglected to include a very limited number of vehicles with the recall condition that were manufactured during the January to April 2004 period at IML’s Kawasaki facility and sold in Japan. The two Former Recalls (and Foreign Recall Information Reports) were only for vehicles manufactured at IML’s Fujisawa facility. The purpose of this submission is to identify all of the foreign vehicles included in the expanded foreign recall. Please note that IML is still in the process of trying to determine whether there were any affected vehicles produced at the Kawasaki facility during the expanded time frame that were sold in foreign (non-U.S.) countries outside of Japan. If the answer turns out to be yes, IML expects to expand the recall in those countries and to file one more Foreign Recall Information Report with NHTSA in a timely manner.

573.6 (c)(1)

Manufacturer: Isuzu Motors Limited
26-1, Minami-ooi 6-chome
Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 140-8722 Japan

Supplier: Ashimori Industry Co., Ltd.
10-18, 3-chome, Kitahorie, Nishi-ku, Osaka, 550-0014, Japan
Ph: +81-06-6533-9250

Subject component: Seat Belt, Tongue Side Assembly

Country of Origin
of the component: Japan

573.6 (c)(2):

The subject vehicles sold in Japan and listed in Attachment 1 are substantially similar (as “substantially similar” is defined in 49 CFR Section 579.4) to certain Isuzu F-Series and Chevrolet/GMC T-Series commercial vehicles sold in the United States. As set forth in more detail below, IML was able to determine that vehicles with the subject defect were not sold in the U.S. Nonetheless, in an abundance of caution and in recognition of the goals of the NHTSA reporting requirements, Isuzu is filing this report to ensure that the Agency is aware of this recall.

573.6 (c)(3)

Please see Attachment 1.

573.6 (c)(5):

Summary:

During the assembly of the seat belt retractors in the affected 2004MY FORWARD Commercial Vehicles built in Japan, and specifically in the installation of the inertia rotor in the subject seat belt retractors by the supplier in Japan, the retractors were damaged, resulting in the potential loss of the retractors’ operational ability.

Detailed description:

The “substantially similar” vehicles sold in the U.S. are equipped with an entirely different seat belt system, utilizing a different inertia rotor in the retractors, than the affected vehicles involved in the subject foreign recall. In addition, the seat belts in the U.S. vehicles are assembled by a different supplier in U.S. Finally, none of the “substantially similar” vehicles made at IML’s Kawasaki facility during the January to April 2004 time frame was even shipped to the U.S. As a result, the U.S. vehicles are not similarly susceptible to the problem that led to the recall that is the subject of this report.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at 734-582-9262 or Scott Crafard of my staff at 734-582-9250.

Sincerely,



Jeffery A. Marsee
Chief Representative
Emissions and Safety
Isuzu Manufacturing Services of America, Inc

Enclosure

Attachment 1
 §573.6(c)(3) and 579.12

Country	Model Series	Model Year ¹	Number Involved	Inclusive Manufacturing Dates
Japan	FORWARD	2004	18 units	January ~ April 2004

Safety Recall or Safety Campaign	Determination made by	Date of Determination	Date the Campaign Commenced	Description of Program	Substantially similar ² vehicles produced during the same period as the affected vehicles
Safety Recall (Japan)	Manufacturer	October 20, 2010	October 21, 2010 (Japan)	The retractor in the seat belts with the subject defect will be replaced with an improved retractor.	Isuzu F-series, Chevrolet/GMC T-series

¹ In Japan, model years can last for multiple calendar years. Manufacture year is reported as MY in this report.

² The vehicles are “substantially similarly” insofar as that term is defined in 49 CFR Section 579.4.