



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Memorandum

Subject: Time Extension

Date: September 14, 2004

From: Richard Boyd, Chief 
Medium & Heavy Duty Vehicle Division
Office of Defects Investigation

To: Ms. Suzanne K. Peterson
Compliance Specialist
Victory Motorcycle Division
Polaris Industries, Inc.

RE: Request for Time Extension – PE04-057

This responds to your September 9, 2004 letter to Mr. Robert Young and confirms your September 14th agreement with him concerning Polaris' response to the referenced PE information request. The original October 1, 2004 due date will remain in effect for information requests 1 through 4 and all responsive material to those items must be received by that date. We have agreed to extend the due date for items 5 through 7 to November 15, 2004. If you have any questions, please call me at (202) 366-2850.



THE NEW AMERICAN MOTORCYCLE™

September 9, 2004

Bob Young
M&HDT Division
Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: PE04-057jry - Polaris Victory Motorcycles

Dear Mr. Young:

I am writing to request an extension in the due date for our response to NHTSA's information request dated August 4, 2004. The information requests relates to the Agency's investigation of a potential defect in the transmissions of Victory V92-series motorcycles. The requested date for production of the requested information is currently October 1, 2004.

Upon receipt of the information request Polaris Industries began identifying potential locations and personnel who might have relevant records. Due to the length of time since many of the relevant vehicles were designed and developed (e.g., model year 1999 V92 motorcycles) there have been many changes in personnel, records have been removed off-site, and Polaris' internal e-mail and computer systems have changed. All of these factors affect our ability to locate potential documents, review and identify those responsive to the information request, and produce them in the desired format.

As an example, Polaris has investigated whether it is possible to resurrect our original e-mail and server systems and conduct searches to locate relevant documents. Based on the initial estimate from our information services personnel, the effort required to conduct email discovery would require, *at a minimum*, approximately 76 weeks of effort and \$280,000 in consulting fees and new hardware and software expenditures. In addition, there is no guarantee that such an effort would be successful. The 76 week estimate reflects approximately 366 workdays of effort and computer run time (over the course of successive five-day workweeks) for completing the following steps in this restoration and search process: (1) inventorying and cataloging backup tapes - 33.1 days; (2) restoring emails from backup tapes to a file server - 332 days; and (3) indexing and searching user

emails -- 1 day. Based on this estimate Polaris is now evaluating other methods for obtaining the records that NHTSA is seeking.

Our initial review of available documents also revealed that many of our customer related records from the relevant time period are not on-site and must be retrieved. Polaris is working diligently to collect the documents requested but will not be able to meet the October 1, 2004 due date. Based on our best estimates Polaris believes that a production date of November 15, 2004 is feasible. This will provide sufficient time for Polaris to locate, review, and produce the requested documents in an organized and meaningful manner for NHTSA review.

We appreciate NHTSA's understanding in this matter as Polaris works to provide the Agency with the documents and records it has requested. Please call me at 715-294-5331 if you have any questions or comments regarding our request for an extension.

Very truly yours,



Suzanne K. Peterson
Compliance Specialist

Victory Motorcycle Division, Polaris Industries, Inc.