

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

JAN 10 2011

James P. Vondale
Automotive Safety Office
Environmental & Safety Engineering
Ford Motor Company
330 Town Center Drive
Dearborn, MI 48126-2738

Re: Request for Confidential Treatment/EA 10-001

Dear Mr. Vondale:

This letter responds to your November 22, 2010, request for confidential treatment of Autoliv ASP, Inc. (Autoliv) materials submitted by Ford Motor Company (Ford). Ford requests confidential treatment for a period of ten (10) years for the information contained in Ford's November 19, 2010 responses to Requests 9 and 10 of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) October 15, 2010 email Information Request in connection with investigation EA 10-001.

Your request is granted.

The information provided by Ford was requested pursuant to 49 USC § 30166, which authorizes the agency to conduct investigations and require manufacturers to submit reports. Because Ford was required to submit this information, I have examined your submission using the competitive harm standard set forth in *National Parks & Conservation Ass'n v. Morton*, 498 F.2d 765 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

I have reviewed your submission, including the materials that you claim are entitled to confidential treatment and the arguments that you assert in support of your claim. I have concluded that the public release of information concerning Autoliv's restraint control module diagnostic software would be likely to cause substantial competitive harm, therefore, that this information is entitled to confidential treatment pursuant to Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 USC § 552(b)(4).

This grant of confidential treatment is subject to certain conditions. The information may be disclosed under 49 CFR § 512.22 based upon newly discovered or changed facts, and you must inform the agency of any changed circumstances that may affect the protection of the information (49 CFR § 512.10). If necessary, you will be notified prior to the release of any information under the procedures established by our regulations (49 CFR § 512.22(b)).

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Otto G. Matheke, III
Senior Attorney

