U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NHTSA

Authentic US Government Information
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
uses a *digital certificate* to ensure
the content has remained unchanged

Investigation: EQ 14-007
Prompted by:
Date Opened: 06/27/2014
Investigator: Cynthia Glass
Approver: Jennifer Timian
Subject: TPMS Non-Compliance to FMVSS 138

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: BF1 Systems Limited
Products: TPMS ECU
Population: 31,820 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Tire Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS) electronic control unit (ECU) manufactured July 1, 2007 through January 31, 2014 may not illuminate the Malfunction Indicator Light (MIL) when a vehicle's ignition is deactivated and then reactivated. This equipment does not comply with the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 138 "Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems."

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This EQ investigation is opened.

Summary:

On November 4, 2013, Aston Martin Lagonda Limited (Aston Martin) notified the NHTSA that it decided certain Model Year (MY) 2010-2013 DB9 Coupe, DB9 Volante, DBS Coupe, DBS Volante, V8 Vantage Coupe, V8 Vantage Roadster, V8 Vantage S Coupe, V8 Vantage S Roadster, and Rapide; MY 2011-2012 Virage Coupe and Virage Volante; and, MY 2013 Rapide S and Vanquish Coupe vehicles fail to comply to the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 138, "Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems." The TPMS malfunction indicator may not illuminate to signal the continued presence of a malfunction after the vehicle ignition is de-activated and then reactivated after a period of five minutes. Aston Martin petitioned the agency for a determination that this noncompliance is not consequential to motor vehicle safety, and that petition is pending with the agency. The potential safety recall matter was assigned recall number 13V-546.

On February 19, 2014, McLaren Automotive, Inc. (McLaren) notified the NHTSA that it decided the same TPMS noncompliance with FMVSS No. 138 exists in certain MY 2012-2015 MP4-12C Spider and Coupe vehicles. The TPMS malfunction indicator will not illuminate to signal the continued presence of a malfunction after the vehicle ignition is de-activated and then reactivated. McLaren petitioned the agency for a determination that this noncompliance is not consequential to motor vehicle safety, and that petition is pending with the agency. This potential safety recall matter was assigned recall number 14V-061.

On March 5, 2014, Maserati North America, Inc. (Maserati) notified the NHTSA that it decided the same TPMS noncompliance with FMVSS No. 138 exists in certain MY 2011-2013 Maserati Quattroporte, and MY 2011-2014 Granturismo and Granturismo Convertible vehicles. The TPMS malfunction indicator may not illuminate to signal the continued presence of a malfunction after the vehicle ignition is de-activated and then reactivated. Maserati has petitioned the agency for a determination that this noncompliance is not consequential to motor vehicle safety, and that petition is pending with the agency. This potential safety recall matter was assigned recall number 14V-105.

On May 23, 2014 Automobili Lamborghini America, LLC (Lamborghini) notified the NHTSA that it decided the same TPMS noncompliance with FMVSS No. 138 exists in certain MY 2012-2014 Aventador vehicles manufactured July 15, 2011, through May 13, 2014; MY 2008-2010 Murcielago vehicles manufactured April 3, 2007, through April 29, 2010; and, MY 2008-2014 Gallardo vehicles manufactured June 14, 2007, through November 20, 2013. The TPMS malfunction indicator may not illuminate to signal the continued presence of a malfunction after the vehicle ignition is de-activated and then reactivated. Lamborghini has petitioned the agency for a determination that this noncompliance is not consequential to motor vehicle safety, and that petition is pending with the agency. This potential safety recall

matter was assigned recall number 14V-277.

BF1 supplied NHTSA with a purchaser list identifying the vehicle manufacturers that may have incorporated the subject TPMS into their vehicles. A review of this list, however, shows that a noncompliance decision and the associated notification and Part 573 Report have not been filed by all of the potentially affected manufacturers at this time.

The purpose of this EQ investigation is to write to the companies that purchased BF1's TPMS ECU, notify them of this noncompliance, and ensure thorough safety recalls are conducted where appropriate.