



July 30, 2001

Jon White
Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
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01V-254 ①

RE: 2001 Montero Hydraulic Brake Booster Accumulator Recall

Dear Mr. White:

Mitsubishi Motor Sales of America, Inc. (MMSA) submits this letter pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 573.5 - Defect and Noncompliance Information Report. Some of the information provided below was furnished by the vehicle manufacturer, Mitsubishi Motors Corporation (MMC). The production of such information should not be construed as an admission that NHTSA, or any other governmental agency, or court, has any jurisdiction over MMC or that MMSA in anyway controls or has the ability to control MMC or its documents. Any jurisdictional or related objections in any future proceeding, investigation information or court action are hereby reserved. Accordingly, the following is the information required by the above regulation.

1. Importer's Name:

**Mitsubishi Motor Sales of America, Inc.
6400 Katella Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-5208**

2. Vehicles involved in this notification:

The vehicles involved in this notification are certain 2001 and 2002 Mitsubishi Montero vehicles manufactured between December 12, 1999 and June 20, 2001. (VIN starting JA4MW51R01J000027 and ending JA4MW51R32J003203)

3. Total number of vehicles: 39,020

4. Approximate percentage of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect:

MMC does not know how many of the potentially affected vehicles actually contain the defect; however, it is believed that the number is small. Owners of all affected vehicles will be notified and subject vehicles included in this campaign.



5. Description of the defect:

The accumulator that is installed on the hydraulic brake booster may have been manufactured improperly, which over a period of time may result in leakage of the pressurized nitrogen gas from inside the accumulator. The loss of this gas pressure may result in an abnormal noise from the left side of the dash panel when the brakes are applied, and possibly a delayed first time brake boost assist after the vehicle has been parked for a period of time.

6. Chronological summary of events leading to this determination:

MMC received field reports of an "abnormal noise from the left side of the dash panel area when the brakes were applied" and "a delayed first time brake boost assist after long parking". As a result, failed parts were returned from the field and investigated. MMC inspected the parts and found a crack in the diaphragm inside of the brake booster accumulator, which allowed the nitrogen gas to leak. Further investigation found some problems with the production processes. MMC corrected those processes and also improved the uneven thickness of the diaphragm.

7. Test Results or data used to determine noncompliance.

Not applicable

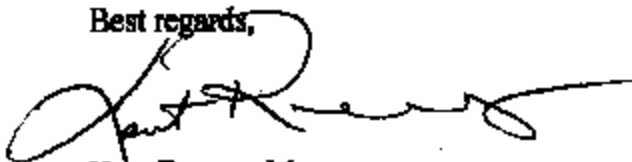
8. Description of proposed remedy:

Beginning in October 2001, all owners of the affected vehicles will be notified and encouraged to bring their vehicles in to have an improved accumulator installed.

9. Notices and Bulletins:

MMSA will provide NHTSA with a draft owner notification and technical service instructions when they become available.

Best regards,



**Kent Reeves, Manager
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