



**MITSUBISHI MOTOR
SALES OF CARIBBEAN, Inc.**

Road 2 Km. 20.1 Candelaria Word
Toa Baja PR 00949
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August 28, 2001

01V-254.002 ①

Jonathan White
Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: 2001 & 2002 Montero Hydraulic Brake Booster Accumulator Recall

Dear Mr. White:

Mitsubishi Motor Sales of Caribbean, Inc. (MMSC) submits this letter pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 573.5 - Defect and Noncompliance Information Report. The vehicle manufacturer, Mitsubishi Motor Corporation (MMC) furnished some of the information provided below. 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 MMSC 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 Caribbean, Inc.
Road 2 Km 20.1 Candelaria Word
Toa Baja, P.R. 00949**

2. Vehicles involved in this notification:

The vehicles involved in this notification are certain 2001 and 2002 Mitsubishi Montero vehicles manufactured between March 2, 2000 and February 22, 2001 (VIN starting JMAMW51R11J03388 and ending in JA4MW51R61J036039)

3. Total number of vehicles: 346

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.

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WASHINGTON, DC 20590

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 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:

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

Best regards,


**Rafael Arzuaga
Service Director
Mitsubishi Motor Sales of Caribbean
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