



Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.

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July 8, 2008

Kathleen DeMeter, Esq.
Director, Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. (MMNA) submits this letter pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 579.12 – Foreign Campaigns. Mitsubishi Motors Corporation (MMC) has advised us that certain 1999 ~ 2003 Pajero vehicles Manufactured and distributed in Japan are subject to a vehicle improvement campaign involving the accumulator used on the hydraulic brake booster.

The 1999 ~ 2003 Mitsubishi Pajero is substantially similar to the 2001 ~2002 Mitsubishi Montero imported into the United States by MMNA and into Puerto Rico by Mitsubishi Motor Sales Caribbean (MMSA).

The subject accumulator is the same component that was subject to recall 01V-254 and RQ06-007. It was determined that the loss of gas pressure in the accumulator 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. ODI analyzed the information supplied by MMNA in response to the RQ and closed the investigation. The reason stated was; “due to the low failure rates, the absence of related crashes, and no indication of increasing failure trends in either the subject vehicles or post-repair recall population this investigation is closed.” The loss of gas pressure from the accumulator simply does not present an unreasonable risk to vehicle safety.

Because MMC has expanded the scope of the product improvement campaign in Japan, MMNA also plans to take action here in the United States and Puerto Rico. MMNA will notify current owners of affected 2001 ~ 2002 Montero and extend the warranty coverage for the hydraulic brake booster accumulator to a period of 10 years (from the original delivery date) or 150,000 miles, whichever comes first. Owners that have proof they paid to have the accumulator replaced (on a qualified vehicle) will be provided with instructions on how to apply for a reimbursement.



This warranty extension will be provided to the 39,000 vehicle owners that were involved in recall 01V-254 as well as an additional 23,335 vehicle owners that were not included in the original recall.

MMNA understands that the failure of the hydraulic brake booster accumulator is cause for dissatisfaction from customers who have to pay to have it replaced. While we are of the opinion that this failure does not affect vehicle safety, we have taken this action to insure customer satisfaction. We plan to send our owner notification letter within the next 45 to 60 days.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at one of the contact points listed below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kent Reeves". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and "R".

Kent Reeves, National Manager
Product Support & Technical Compliance
Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.
Tele: 714-372-6362
Fax: 714-934-4242
Email: kreeves@mmsa.com

Attachment

49 C.F.R. Part 579.12 – Foreign Campaign Report

1. The manufacturers name: **Mitsubishi Motors Japan.**
2. Identification of the vehicles: **1999 ~ 2003 Mitsubishi Pajero Models:**
Manufacturing period: **4 August 1999 to 26 August 2003**
VIN range: **V63W-0100002 to V63W-0400109**
V65W-0000011 to V65W-0400104
V68W-0000011 to V68W-0400101
V73W-0100007 to V73W-0400149
V75W-0000019 to V75W-0400127
V78W-0000018 to V78W-0400104
3. Number of vehicles involved:

V63	892
V65	3,761
V68	2,228
V73	4,189
V75	19,634
V78	10,417
Total	41,121
4. Defect description: **The hydraulic brake booster accumulator may leak gas pressure over time and 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.**
5. Foreign countries where recall will be launched: **Japan and China**
6. Safety recall or other campaign: **Product Improvement Campaign**
7. Recall determination government or manufacturer: **Manufacturer**
8. Remedy: **The affected vehicles will be inspected for the proper accumulator lot number and a new one installed if not the proper level.**
9. Date recall started or will start: **July 2008**
10. Number of vehicles sold in the USA or Territories: **62,335 Note: MMNA will address the vehicles located in the United States and Puerto Rico with a special warranty extension to cover the accumulator for a period of 10 years or 150,000 miles (whichever comes first).**