Land Rover North America

December 17, 2003

04V-005 ①of③

Mr. Kenneth N. Weinstein
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
U.S. Department of Transportation
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

RECEIVED
2004 JAN -6 P 3:08

RE: Recall Campaign – ABS Modulator Valve Covers 1999 to 2004 Model Year Land Rover Discovery II Vehicles

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 and 49 CFR Part 573.

Pursuant to Section 573.5 (c) of the above, we submit the following information:

1. **Manufacturer Corporate Name:**

   Land Rover
   Solihull, United Kingdom

   Affiliated U.S. Importing Company and Agent:

   Land Rover North America, Inc.
   555 MacArthur Blvd
   Mahwah, NJ 07430

2. **Identification of Affected Vehicles:**

   Based on analysis of the failure mode and build records the following vehicle population was identified.

   Subject Vehicles: 1999 to 2004 Model Year, Discovery II vehicles

   VIN Range: SALTY1247XA200253 to SALTP19424A844750
   produced from May 1, 1998 to December 1, 2003

Land Rover North America
555 MacArthur Boulevard
Mahwah, New Jersey 07430
Telephone 1-800-637-6837
Fax 1-201-760-8514

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Affected:

99,657 vehicles built for sales in the United States in this VIN range are affected by this recall.

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect:

It is estimated that 0.1% of the vehicle population may potentially exhibit the defect during service.

5. Description of the Defect:

ABS Modulator valve cover retaining bolts can crack due to stresses transmitted by the flexing valve covers. This is a result of significant operation of traction or hill descent control, primarily associated with extensive off-road use.

This defect can produce an unexpected increase in stopping distance, with the potential for total loss of service braking function, which would increase the likelihood of an accident.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

May to October 2002 – 6 Field Reports (worldwide) received of single circuit service brake failure, investigation commenced.

January to April 2003 - Engineering and supplier conferences reviewed the data and to evaluate potential causes and any factors that may identify the scope of the problem.

June 2003 – In-depth analysis of the issue with a statistical approach to failure rate prediction and root cause analysis using 6 Sigma tools. Potential product improvements examined and testing regime reviewed.

September 2003 – Technical Review of all data conducted including proposed containment and permanent corrective action.

December 2003 – Implement permanent corrective action in vehicle production with fitment of ABS modulator assembly fitted with stronger covers and longer bolts.

7. Case of Non-Compliance

Vehicles experiencing this failure will exhibit increased stopping distances and, ultimately the service brakes may cease to operate causing the vehicles to fail to comply with FMVSS 105/135.

8. Description of Corrective Repair Action

Vehicles within the affected VIN range will be recalled to strengthen the ABS modulator assembly valve covers and replace the retaining bolts.

9. Copies of Dealer Communications

Copies of the dealer notification documents (service bulletin and technical information bulletin (TIB)) will be submitted to NHTSA when available.

10. Copy of Owner Communication

A draft copy of the customer notification letter will be submitted to NHTSA for your review and approval when it is available.

11. Manufacturer's Campaign Number

Land Rover's campaign number is B148.

Should there be any questions regarding this report, please feel free to contact me at 201-818-9379.

Sincerely,

Dennis T. Johnston
Manager, Product Compliance