



April 13, 2004

THE NEW AMERICAN MOTORCYCLE™

04V-187
(4 pages)

Patricia Wallace, ODI
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590
Telephone (202) 366-5232
Fax (202) 366-7882

573.6 Defect Information Report

573.6.c.1.

Vehicle manufacturer's full name:

Polaris Industries Inc., Victory Motorcycle Division

Address:

2100 Highway 55
Medina, MN 55340-9800

573.6.c.2.

Vehicles potentially containing defect:

Victory Vegas, ANSS Vegas, and Kingpin models.

Vehicle Identification Numbers:

List of affected VINs will be e-mail.

Inclusive dates of manufacture:

MY04 models assembled from 5-12-03 through 4-7-04.

Basis for recall population:

Victory began using a new returnable shipping crate at the beginning MY04 production. All Victory Vegas, ANSS Vegas and Kingpin motorcycles shipped in this new crate are suspect and included in this recall.

573.6.c.3.

Total number of vehicles potentially containing defect:

A total of 3,230 vehicles are affected.

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573.6.c.4.

Percentage of vehicles estimated to actually contain defect:

Victory estimates less than 10% of the vehicles affected by this recall will contain the defect.

573.6.c.5.

Brief Summary:

The rear brake reservoir line may become damaged while loading or unloading the vehicle in or out of the shipping crate. Damage to the rear brake reservoir line may cause a leak in the brake line and possible brake failure.

Detailed description:

At the start of model year 2004 production Victory began using a new returnable shipping crate. The new crate incorporates two hard plastic blocks attached to the bottom of the crate to support the lower right and left frame cradles of the motorcycle during transport.

In early April of 2004 Victory discovered that in some instances the plastic block used to support the right frame cradle could come in contact with the rear brake reservoir line as the bike was rolled in place into the shipping crate, damaging the rubber hose portion of the brake line assembly.

573.6.c.6.

Chronology:

Upon the review of warranty records in late March of 2004, Victory became aware of a potential rear brake line leaking issue. Victory's investigation led to the conclusion that brakes lines were damaged as the vehicles were loaded into the shipping crate. Even though no injuries related to this issue have been reported, Victory has concluded that the condition is safety related.

573.6.c.8.

Remedy program:

Victory will conduct a safety recall for dealers to inspect the rear brake reservoir line on all vehicles listed. Any brake line showing signs of wear or damage will be replaced. No reimbursement plan is necessary as the affected vehicles are very new, thus any repairs relating to this issue conducted prior to this recall would be covered under warranty.

Estimated date on which notifications to Owners will begin:

Owners will be notified within 7 days of NHTSA approval of the owner notification letter. The proposed owner notification letter is included as Attachment A to this submittal. Victory estimates that the notification will begin no later than April 23, 2004.

Estimated date on which notification will be completed:

Victory estimates that owner notification will be completed no later than one week after notifications begin (see estimated date for owner notification initiation, above). Victory currently estimates that owner notification will be completed by April 30, 2003.

573.6.c.10.

Owner letter:

See attached owner notification letter.

573.6.c.11.

Manufacturer's campaign number: V-04-01A

Signed: _____

Suzanne K. Peterson

Victory Motorcycle Division, Polaris Industries Inc.

Date: _____

4-13-04

Polaris Sales Inc.
2100 Hwy 55
Medina, Minnesota 55340
Phone: 763-542-0500
FAX: 763-542-0599



THE NEW AMERICAN MOTORCYCLE
DRAFT 4/9/04

SUBJECT: REAR BRAKE FLUID RESERVOIR HOSE INSPECTION CAMPAIGN

2004 Victory Kingpin™, Vegas™ and Vegas ANSS™

Warning and Recall Notice ???-???

Reference Victory Safety Recall Bulletin V-04-01A

April 20, 2004

Dear Victory Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. The Victory Motorcycle Division of Polaris Industries Inc. has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety may exist in some of the 2004 Victory motorcycle models listed above. Our records indicate that you have purchased one of these units.

On the affected motorcycles, the hose that connects the rear brake fluid reservoir to the rear brake master cylinder may have become damaged during shipment and may leak brake fluid, which can cause a loss of rear braking capability, increasing the risk of a crash.

Do not ride your motorcycle until your dealer has inspected the hose and replaced it if necessary.

The repair will consist of rear brake reservoir hose inspection and replacement if the hose is found to be damaged. Repairs will be made by an authorized Victory motorcycle dealer at no cost to you. The inspection will take approximately 15 minutes. If hose replacement is necessary the repair will take approximately one hour. However, your dealership may need your motorcycle for a longer period of time depending on their work schedule.

Upon receipt of this recall notice, please call your authorized Victory motorcycle dealer to schedule an appointment. Do not attempt repairs yourself. Repairs must be done only by an authorized Victory dealer.

If you are having difficulty obtaining the recall repair outlined in this letter, please call our Consumer Service Department at (763) 417-8650.

If you believe that the Victory Motorcycle Division of Polaris Industries Inc. has failed to remedy this defect without charge or is unable to do so within a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at 400 Seventh Street S.W., Washington D.C. 20590 or call the toll-free safety hotline at 1-888-327-4236.

Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Sincerely,

VICTORY MOTORCYCLE DIVISION OF POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC.

Karl Iversall

Manager, Technical Service & Warranty

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within 10 days. If you are no longer the owner of the Victory motorcycle indicated by this letter, please contact our Consumer Service Department @ 763-417-8650 so we may update our records. Or write to us at:
Polaris Industries, Inc.
Consumer Service Department
2100 Highway 55
Medina, MN 55340-9962