June 25, 2004

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MOTORS NORTH AMERICA, Inc.

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

Re: Defect Information Report

04V-313
(3 pages)

Ms. DeMeter:

In accordance with the provisions of 49 CFR Part 573.5 Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Mitsubishi Motor North America, Inc. (MMNA) hereby furnishes this Defect Information Report, which contains details of a potential defect in some 2004 model year MMNA manufactured vehicles.

This report covers vehicles distributed by Mitsubishi Motor North America, Inc., Daimler Chrysler (DC) and Mitsubishi Motor Sales of the Caribbean (MMSC). Each distributor will advise you of their launching schedule and provide copies of the Owner Notification Letter, Service Bulletin and all other pertinent information prior to customer notification.

The manufacturer's name:

**Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.**

2. Identification of the vehicles and defect item;

| Make | Line | Model Year | Dates of Manufacture |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mitsubishi | Eclipse | 2004 | 2004-4-16~ 2004-6-07 |
| Mitsubishi | Eclipse Spyder | 2004 | 2004-4-16~ 2004-6-07 |
| Chrysler | Sebring 2dr Coupe | 2004 | 2004-4-19~ 2004-6-07 |
| Dodge | Status 2dr Coupe | 2004 | 2004-4-19~ 2004-6-07 |

3. Total number of vehicles:

| | |
|---|---|
| Mitsubishi Eclipse | 92 |
| Mitsubishi Eclipse Spyder | 691 |
| Chrysler Sebring 2dr Coupe | 2,237 |
| Dodge Stratus 2dr Coupe | 4,136 |
| Total | 7,156 |

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4. Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the potential defect:

**It is impossible to estimate the actual number of vehicles that contain the defect, however, owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be notified, and those vehicles will be included in this campaign.**

5. Description of the defect including summary:

**The fuel return line hose fitting on the electric fuel pump may be improperly molded which could lead to a weak fitting and possible breakage of the fitting when subjected to stress. Breakage of the fitting could result in leakage of fuel from the fuel pump return line. Fuel leakage in the presence of an ignition source could result in a fire.**

6. Chronological summary of events leading to this determination:

**On June 2, 2004, the Tier 3 supplier found that the fitting on the fuel pump was approximately 4 mm shorter than the length specified on the part drawing. An investigation revealed that the molding machine was improperly ejecting the fitting, which resulted in the fitting being made too short. In addition, a line that was formed at the base of the fitting may result in the fitting being weaker than required. As a result of this potential weakness in the fitting and the improper fitting length, it was decided to conduct a recall. The fuel pumps on the affected vehicles will be replaced with a new fuel pump.**

7. Test results for a noncompliance:

**Not applicable.**

8. Description of the proposed remedy:

**Owners of all affected vehicles will be notified and encouraged to bring their vehicles in for replacement of the fuel pump.**

9. Launch date:

**Each distributor expects to initiate national notification to both dealers and owners when a sufficient quantity of parts becomes available. Scheduling information for implementing this recall is not available at this time.**

10. Notices, bulletins and communication:

**Copies of the owner letters, bulletins will be provided as soon as they are available.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at one of the contact points listed below.

Sincerely,

Kent Reeves,
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and Quality Engineering
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