

November 9, 2004

04V-542

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

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

Mitsubishi Motor Sales Caribbean, Inc. (MMSC) submits this letter pursuant to 49C.F.R. Part 573.5 -Defect and Noncompliance Information Report on certain 1996 model year Mitsubishi vehicles imported and distributed by MMSC. The vehicle manufacturers, Mitsubishi Motors 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 49 C.F.R. Part 573.5.

1. Importer Name

Mitsubishi Motors Sales Caribbean, Inc.

2. Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect

Make	Line	Model Year	Date of Manufacture
Mitsubishi	Expo	1996	May 24,1996 through July 15,1996

3. Total Number of Vehicles

Vehicle Line	Number of Vehicles
	Puerto Rico
Expo	276

4. Approximate Percentage of Vehicles Actually Containing the Defect

Mitsubishi cannot determine an estimated percentage of vehicles that could potentially experience the radiator hose detachment. However, owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be notified and will be included in this campaign.

5. Defect Description

Since the hose clamping method is inappropriate for the length of the radiator upper hose, the holding power on the pipes inserted into the affected hoses is insufficient. Due to engine behavior, forces may pull on the radiator hose and, in a worse case scenario, the hose may come out potentially leading to coolant leakage and subsequent overheating.

6. Chronological Summary of Events Leading to Determination

As a result of an internal investigation at MMC, it was discovered that the clamping method used to secure radiator hoses was inappropriate for certain vehicles manufactured during the period specified in 2. above. Since continued use with this clamping method could potentially result in hoses becoming detached under certain conditions, Mitsubishi determined to conduct a safety recall.

7. Test Results or Data Used to Determine Non-compliance

Not applicable

8. Proposed Remedy Description

All owners of affected vehicles will be notified of the defect by first class mail and instructed to bring their vehicles to dealers to have the radiator hose and hose clamp changed to modify ones.

The estimated customer notification letters launch date is expected within 30 days, when an appropriate supply of parts becomes available and customer notification letters and service bulletin are completed.

9. Notice(s) and Bulletin(s)

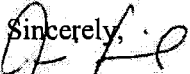
The owner notification and technical bulletin drafts will be provided as soon as they are available.

10. Reimbursements

Owners seeking reimbursement for any expenses relating to this recall will be directed in the notification letter to contact MMSC's Customer Service Department for instructions on how to apply for a refund.

Should you have any questions or comments, you may reach me at one of the contact points listed below.

Sincerely,


René Fernández

Parts & Sales Director, MMSC