



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

September 29, 2005

DOUG STUHLSTZ
GENERAL COUNSEL
BIG DOG MOTORCYCLES, LLC
1520 EAST DOUGLAS AVENUE
WICHITA KS 67214

NVS-215
05V-432

Subject: REAR WHEEL HUB BOLTS

Dear MR. STUHLSTZ:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect or noncompliance information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this is the information that will be made available to the public.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

BIG DOG/BULL DOG/2005
BIG DOG/CHOPPER/2005
BIG DOG/CHOPPER DT/2005
BIG DOG/MASTIFF/2005
BIG DOG/PITBULL/2005
BIG DOG/RIDGEBACK/2005

NHTSA Campaign Number: 05V-432

Mfg's Report Date: September 21, and September 28, 2005

Components: WHEELS:LUGS/NUTS/BOLTS

Potential Number of Units Affected: To be provided

Summary:

ON CERTAIN MOTORCYCLES, THE REAR WHEEL HUB BOLTS COULD LOOSEN AND BACK OUT ALLOWING THE HUB AND BRAKE ROTOR TO DETACH FROM THE WHEEL WITH AN ASSOCIATED LOSS OF STOPPING POWER.

Consequence:

THIS CONDITION COULD OCCUR WITHOUT ANY PRIOR WARNING AND COULD RESULT IN A CRASH.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL REMOVE, CLEAN AND REATTACH THE FRONT AND REAR HUB BOLTS. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BE ON OR ABOUT OCTOBER 15, 2005. OWNER SHOULD CONTACT BIG DOG AT 1-312-267-9121.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following items:

Effective October 21, 2004, a manufacturer must provide an estimated dealer notification date as well as an owner notification date (month/day/year) when submitting a defect/noncompliance report (Part 573.6).

Please provide us with the quantity of motorcycles affected by this recall.

We have reviewed your proposed owner letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577.

Regulations require manufacturers conducting safety recalls to include the NHTSA Vehicle Safety Hotline phone number in their notification letters to owners [49 CFR 577.5(g)(1)(vii)]. That phone number has changed, and in a technical amendment to the regulation published in the June 21, 2005 Federal Register [70 FR 35556] manufacturers' owner letters must contain the new phone number and the NHTSA's web address. Accordingly, beginning July 21, 2005, please revise your owner letters to include the following statement. "A statement informing the owner that he or she may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>, if the owner believes that ..."

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin during October 2005. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by January 30, 2006.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov or delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

for Patricia Wallace

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement

cc: Lawrence Henneberger
Arent Fox