



Polaris Industries Inc.
2100 Highway 55
Medina, MN 55340-9770
763-542-0500
800-216-8857 fax

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OFFICE OF DEFECTS
INVESTIGATION

05V-095
(10 pages)

March 10, 2005

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

Dear Ms. Wallace,

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:

MY04 Victory Ness Vegas, MY05 Victory Ness Vegas & MY05 Victory Ness Kingpin models

Vehicle Identification Numbers:

List of affected VINs attached.

Inclusive dates of manufacture:

Victory models assembled from 10/21/2003 through 12/16/04.

Basis for recall population:

All Victory models equipped with machined metal handlebar grips part numbers 2872826 and 2872817 and chrome plated handlebars part numbers 2874845 and 2875165 are included in this recall.

573.6.c.3.

Total number of vehicles potentially containing defect:

A total of 774 vehicles may contain this defect.

573.6.c.4.

Percentage of vehicles estimated to actually contain defect:

Victory estimates that approximately 1% of affected vehicles may contain the defect.

573.6.c.5.

Brief Summary:

The throttle twist grip used on the listed models may bind on the handle bar causing the throttle to stick or not return freely to a closed position.

Detailed description:

The Victory Ness models identified in this recall are equipped with machined aluminum handlebar grips and machined and welded chrome plated steel handlebars.

Victory has recently discovered that metal shavings from the machining operations of the handlebars or grips may not have been completely removed prior to assembly and may become trapped between the throttle control twist grip and handlebar. Such a condition could cause the twist grip to feel sticky and in extreme cases stick in position.

573.6.c.6.

Chronology:

Recent warranty claims of sticky throttle controls on Victory Ness models prompted an investigation into the cause of the defect. Victory's investigation led to the conclusion that metal shavings from either inside of the handlebar or metal twist grip migrated between the handlebar and grip affecting the free movement of the twist grip and could potentially cause the throttle to stick.

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 to have dealers inspect and rework the throttle controls as required for all suspect models. Victory will also reimburse claimants who have paid for repairs due to this condition unless those repairs would have been covered under warranty.

Estimated date on which notifications to Owners will begin:

March 28, 2005

Estimated date on which notification will be completed:

April 1, 2005

573.6.c.10.

Owner letter:

“Draft” copy of Owner letter is attached.

573.6.c.11.

Manufacturer’s campaign number:

V-05-01

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Bridget M. McLennan
Product Compliance Specialist
Polaris Industries Inc.

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Polaris Industries Inc.
2100 Hwy 55
Medina, Minnesota 55340



THE NEW AMERICAN MOTORCYCLE

Phone: 763-542-0500
FAX: 763-542-0599

SUBJECT: RECALL CAMPAIGN - THROTTLE TWIST GRIP INSPECTION
2004 Ness Edition Vegas™
2005 Ness Edition Vegas™ and Kingpin™ Motorcycles

Warning and Safety Recall Notice 05V-xxx
Reference Victory Safety Recall Bulletin V-05-01

March xx, 2005

Dear Victory Owner:

DRAFT r02

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 decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in some 2004 Ness Edition Vegas™, 2005 Ness Edition Vegas™ and Kingpin™ Motorcycles. Our records indicate that you have purchased one of these units.

The reason for this recall:

On the affected motorcycles, the throttle twist grip may not return to the fully closed position due to metal to metal contact or debris between the throttle twist grip and the handlebar. Restricted throttle movement could result in loss of control, increasing the risk of a crash.

What Victory and your dealer will do:

To correct this defect, your authorized Victory dealer will disassemble the throttle mechanism, clean the twist grip assembly and handlebar, lubricate moving parts and reassemble. Any worn or damaged parts will be replaced. Repairs will be made by an authorized Victory motorcycle dealer at no cost to you. The inspection, cleaning, and lubrication will take approximately 30 minutes. However, parts replacement may require a longer period of time due to service scheduling requirements and the parts required.

What you should do:

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.

Do not ride your motorcycle until your dealer has inspected the throttle mechanism.

While your Victory dealer is in the best position to answer your questions, if you have any questions that your dealer cannot address, or 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 no longer own your motorcycle, please call our Consumer Service Department at (763) 417-8650 or write to the address below with the name and address of the new owner.

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.

If you have paid for repairs related to this recall condition prior to receiving this notice, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement. A reimbursement form with instructions for filing a claim can be requested by calling Polaris Customer Service at (763) 417-8650.

Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may cause you. Your safety and continued satisfaction with your Victory motorcycle is our primary concern. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

VICTORY MOTORCYCLE DIVISION OF POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC.

Karl Iverslie

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 Consumer Service @ 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

REF: V0501