



March 23, 2005

THE NEW AMERICAN MOTORCYCLE™

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

05V-115
(4 pages)

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:

MY 2005 Touring Cruisers

Vehicle Identification Numbers:

A list of affected VINs is attached.

Inclusive dates of manufacture:

MY 2005 Touring Cruisers manufactured since 10/2004.

Basis for recall population:

The subject defect is limited to a specification change affecting only MY 2005 Victory Touring Cruisers manufactured between 10/26/2004 and 03/03/05.

573.6.c.3.

Total number of vehicles potentially containing defect:

A total of 271 vehicles may contain this defect.

573.6.c.4.

Percentage of vehicles estimated to actually contain defect:

Victory estimates that 100% of the affected vehicles may contain the defect.

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573.6.c.5.

Brief Summary:

During manufacture, the clamp pressure on the front fork legs was set at 28 lb.-ft. The correct specification for torque of the clamp pressure on the front fork legs is 35 lb.-ft.

Detailed description:

Inadequate clamp pressure on the fork legs could cause the forks to slide up through the triple clamps during high impact e.g., hard braking, hitting large bumps, potholes, etc. Such a condition could affect the handling conditions of the vehicle.

573.6.c.6.

Chronology:

In October 2004, the original torque tool used during assembly experienced a problem and was replaced with another tool. During the set up of the replacement tool, the torque specification was set incorrectly. In early March of 2005 tooling was reset again and it was discovered that the motorcycles assembled from October of 2004 through early March 2005 had been torqued incorrectly while being assembled with the replacement tool. Current product is not affected and the problem period was easily isolated by identifying the motorcycles produced with the replacement tool.

Even though we have not received any reports of injuries, Victory has concluded that the condition is safety related.

573.6. c.8.

Remedy program:

Victory will conduct a safety recall by which we will instruct dealers to re-torque the fork leg clamps to 35 lb.-ft. All suspect vehicles are within their warranty period, and the repair will be 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:

In lieu of a direct mail campaign to consumers, and since there are only 24 affected motorcycles in consumer's hands, the Victory Motorcycle Division will contact each registered owner of an affected motorcycle via telephone to discuss the need for repair. We acknowledge that if our compliance rate is not favorable we will follow up with a letter to each registered owner of a motorcycle at a later date.

573.6.c.11.

Manufacturer's campaign number:

V-05-02

Signed: Suzanne K. Peterson Date: 3-24-05
 Suzanne K. Peterson, Compliance Specialist
 Victory Motorcycle Division, Polaris Industries Inc.

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