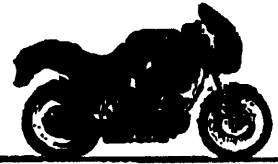


Buell[®]
AMERICAN MOTORCYCLES



Buell Distribution Corporation
3700 West Juneau Avenue
P.O. Box 653
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0653

telephone 414.343.8400
facsimile 414.343.8358

(4 pages)
05 U-148

April 13, 2005

Ms. Kathleen C. DeMeter
Director of Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
US Department of Transportation, Room 5326
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

RECEIVED
2005 APR 14 A 7:39
OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

The following information is submitted in accordance with National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's reporting regulations, 49CFR Part 573.6.

Buell Distribution Company, LLC has learned that a condition affecting safety exists on the sidestand of certain 2005 model year XB12S, XB12R and XB9SX motorcycles.

IDENTIFICATION OF EQUIPMENT POTENTIALLY CONTAINING THE DEFECT:

There have been approximately 149 motorcycles built from January 11, 2005 through January 17, 2005 with this condition (the entire production of the subject motorcycles).

DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT:

Buell Distribution Company, LLC has learned that the above vehicles were built with a sidestand that may not retract 5 degrees as designed when the vehicle is lifted off the sidestand. The result of this defect is that this condition may not allow the sidestand to retract automatically if contact is made with the ground when the vehicle is in motion. This could in turn disrupt the stability of the motorcycle leading to a crash, thereby causing death or injury to the rider.

SUPPLIER INFORMATION:

GSK Technologies Inc.
789, Chung Shan Road Sec. 2
Huatang Shiang, Changhua Shian 503, Taiwan, ROC
Contact Name: Tim Hsieh
Phone Number: +886-4-7632666 Ext. 801

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS:

Earlier this year, Buell became aware of an issue with a sidestand not operating properly on a vehicle being roll-tested at their East Troy plant. Subsequent investigation of parts on the assembly line at that plant confirmed that a problem existed. A shipping hold was placed on all motorcycles at the plant. The ensuing investigation, through early April 2005, enabled Buell to discover the defect described in the "Description of Defect" section above. As a precautionary measure, Buell Distribution Company, LLC declared a safety recall on April 13, 2005.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM TO REMEDY THE DEFECT:

The correction for this issue is to replace the sidestand pivot bolt, part number L0174.1AA, with a similar bolt that is .100 inch longer. This change will allow the sidestand to operate as designed.

BUELL PRE-NOTIFICATION REMEDY REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM:

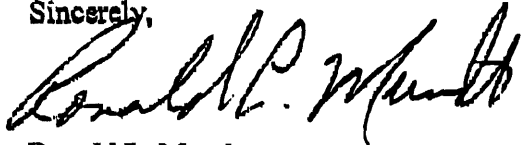
Buell incorporates by reference herein the general reimbursement plan it has previously provided to NHTSA for reimbursing customers for remedy costs incurred prior to notification of this recall.

PART 577 NOTICE LETTER:

A draft of the owner notification letter is attached.

Please advise the undersigned of the campaign number assigned by ODI to this recall.

Sincerely,



Ronald L. Mundt
For Buell Distribution Company, LLC

Buell[®]

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Buell Distribution Corporation
3700 West Juneau Avenue
P.O. Box 653
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0653

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DRAFT

Dear Buell Motorcycle Owner:

This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Buell Distribution Company, LLC has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2005 Buell model XB12S, XB12R and XB9SX motorcycles built from January 11, 2005 through January 17, 2005. The defect may not allow the sidestand to automatically retract as designed if contact is made with the ground when the vehicle is in motion. This could in turn disrupt the stability of the motorcycle leading to a crash thereby, causing death or injury to the rider.

Our records indicate that you are the owner of one of the above listed motorcycles involved in this safety recall as identified by the VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) shown on the enclosed Dealer Service Card.

We strongly urge you to take your motorcycle to your dealer to have the appropriate service performed as soon as possible. If you had this repair before you received this letter, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of the problem associated with this recall. For more information contact Buell Distribution Company, LLC at 1-414-343-8400. Should you choose to ride your motorcycle prior to this service, we urge you to be aware of this condition.

Please contact your Buell motorcycle dealer immediately and arrange an appointment to have your sidestand repaired. The dealer labor time to perform this service takes approximately 30 minutes or less and the parts and labor will be free of charge to you. Parts should be available at your dealership the week of April 25th, 2005.

To verify that the service has been completed your Dealer will ask you to sign a recall claim. If you have sold your motorcycle, please forward the appropriate information about your purchaser. This will enable us to contact him/her and advise that person of

this recall. Also, Federal regulation requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

If you take your motorcycle to your dealer on a mutually agreed-upon date and he does not perform the required service to your satisfaction, please contact Buell Distribution Company, LLC for immediate assistance at the address or telephone number listed on this letterhead. If your dealer or Buell Distribution Company, LLC fails or is unable to remedy your motorcycle without charge within a reasonable time, you may wish to inform the Administrator, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 25090, or call the toll free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-DASH-2DOT or contact NHTSA at www.NHTSA.DOT.GOV.

We regret any inconvenience this may cause you, but we are initiating this action in the interest of your personal safety and satisfaction with our products. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Buell Distribution Company, LLC