



Polaris Industries Inc.
Product Development Center
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 Wyoming, MN 55092
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 2005-215
 2005 MAY 31 P 4: 16
 OFFICE OF
 DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

May 26, 2005

05V-252
 8 pages

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
 Patricia Wallace, Office of Defects Investigation
 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:
 MY 2005 Victory Hammer motorcycles.

Vehicle Identification Numbers:
 A list of affected VINs is attached.

Inclusive dates of manufacture:
 March 7, 2004 through May 4, 2005.

Basis for recall population:
 MY 2005 Victory Hammer motorcycle models shipped prior to May 4, 2005.

573.6.c.3.

Total number of vehicles potentially containing defect:
 A total of 712 vehicles may contain this defect.

573.6.c.4.

Percentage of vehicles estimated to actually contain defect:

Victory estimates that approximately 1.2 percent of the manufactured units may have this defect.

573.6.c.5.

Brief Summary:

Victory motorcycles utilize an overhead valve train where by the valve train is chain driven. The power flows from the crankshaft to the camshafts by a chain and gear arrangement.

Victory has determined that a defect may exist in the lower cam-chain drive sprocket which may cause it to fail. This failure could cause the engine to lock-up which could result in loss of operator control.

Detailed description:

The lower cam-chain drive sprocket is of a powdered metal design which is pressed onto the crankshaft assembly. During the engine assembly process some sprockets have shown visible cracks.

If a cracked sprocket is used in service, the crack can cause the sprocket to break apart. This could cause the engine to lock-up. If an engine were to lock-up, serious engine damage and possible loss of operator control could occur.

573.6.c.6.

Chronology:

During the first week in May, Victory discovered a cracked cam-chain sprocket on a crankshaft assembly at Victory's engine assembly facility. Upon the inspection of all crankshaft assemblies in inventory, nine additional cam-chain sprockets were found to be cracked. At that time all inventory and vehicles were placed on quality hold pending an investigation into the cause of the defect.

Victory has determined that the material defect was caused during the manufacture of the sprocket by a Victory supplier. The failure could generate a crack in the sprocket. There have been no field reports of any accidents or incidents related to this issue, however, 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 require our dealer network to remove the right side engine access cover to visibly inspect the lower crankshaft cam-drive sprocket for cracks. For those machines that pass the visual inspection, no further action is necessary.

For those machines that fail the visual inspection, Victory dealers will replace the engine and/or necessary components.

Estimated date on which notifications to Owners will begin:

June 8, 2005

Estimated date on which notification will be completed:

June 15, 2005

573.6.c.10.

Owner letter:

See attached Owner Notification letter.

573.6.c.11.

Manufacturer's campaign number:

V-05-03

Signed: Don L. Good Date: 5-27-05
Don L. Good

Product Compliance Specialist
Polaris Industries Inc.

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5VPHB26D853010981	
5VPHB26D953010973	
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5VPHB26D453010993	
5VPHB26D353010984	
5VPHB26DX53010982	

Polaris Industries Inc.
2100 Hwy 55
Medina, Minnesota 55340



THE NEW AMERICAN MOTORCYCLE

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

SUBJECT: RECALL CAMPAIGN - CAMSHAFT CHAIN DRIVE SPROCKET INSPECTION

2005 Victory Hammer™ Motorcycles

Warning and Safety Recall Notice 05V-xxx
Reference Victory Safety Recall Bulletin V-05-03

DRAFT

June 8, 2005

Dear Victory Owner:

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 2005 Victory Hammer™ motorcycles. Our records indicate that you have purchased an affected vehicle.

The reason for this recall:

On the affected motorcycles, the camshaft chain drive sprocket located on the crankshaft may have cracked upon installation. If cracks are present, the sprocket may fail during operation. Sprocket failure could cause the engine to lock up which could result in loss of operator control, increasing the risk of a crash.

What Victory and your dealer will do:

To correct this defect, your authorized Victory dealer will remove the lower right engine cover and inspect the sprocket for cracks. If no cracks are visible, repair is not required. For those machines that fail the visual inspection, Victory dealers will replace the engine and/or necessary components. Repairs will be made by an authorized Victory motorcycle dealer at no cost to you. The inspection will take approximately 30 minutes after the engine and exhaust have cooled sufficiently to safely perform the inspection. However, parts replacement will 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 camshaft chain drive sprocket.

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.

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: V0503