NISSAN

NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.
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June 3, 2005

05V-269
(3 pages)

Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Sir:

We are transmitting the enclosed Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573. A voluntary recall campaign will be initiated and your office provided with the notices. Nissan currently plans to begin owner notification by August 15, 2005.

Very truly,

Frank D. Slaveter

Frank D. Slaveter
Senior Manager,
Technical Compliance

Encl.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Manufacturer:

   Nissan Mexicana, S.A, De C.V.

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

   2005 model year Nissan Sentra vehicles produced from November 3, 2004 (start of production) to March 7, 2005. The 2005 model year Altima uses the same vapor hose as described in item 5 below. However, the Altima has a different fuel tank than the Sentra and the layout of the internal components in the tank is different than the Sentra. Nissan has no reports of fuel leakage on the Altima. No other Nissan model uses the same vapor hose.

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

   Approximately 44,000

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect:

   Unknown

5. Description of the Defect:

   A vapor hose located in the fuel tank was not formed correctly in the production process resulting in the inner surface of the hose not being round. This could result in a gap between the hose and a connector tube. When the fuel level in the tank is full and above the joint area between the vapor hose and a connector tube, fuel may flow into the vapor hose through the gap and reach the vapor canister. If the amount of fuel flowing into the vapor canister exceeds its capacity, the excess fuel will be discharged onto the ground. This will depend upon the size of the gap between the vapor hose and the connector tube, the level of the fuel in the tank, and the period of time during which the fuel level is above the joint area.

   The manufacturer of the vapor hose is:

   DTR
   320 Snider Road
   Bluffton, OH 45817

6. Chronology of Principal Events

   March 2005 – Nissan received reports of fuel leaking from the vapor canister after filling the fuel tank.

April-May 2005 – An investigation was conducted to determine the cause of the incidents and the potential risk to safety.

May 27, 2005 – Nissan determined that a safety related defect might exist and that a recall campaign should be conducted.

7. Description of Corrective Action:

Nissan plans to begin notifying owners of potentially affected vehicles August 15, 2005. A vacuum test of the vapor hose to tube connections in the fuel tank will be conducted to determine if any of the connections have a poor seal. If a poor seal is identified, a new fuel tank will be installed.

8. Copy of Notices:

Copies of all notices will be provided to NHTSA as they become available.