

Mazda North American Operations



October 7, 2005

Mr. Ronald Medford
Senior Associate Administrator for Motor Vehicle Safety
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

05V-412
(6 pages)

Dear Mr. Medford:

Re.: Submission of Part 573 report for 2006 model year Mazda5 vehicles

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports," Mazda North American Operations (MNAO), on behalf of Mazda Motor Corporation of Hiroshima, Japan (Mazda), submits the following information concerning a safety defect on the 2006 model Mazda5. This report supplements our September 16, 2005 report.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(1):

Mazda Motor Corporation with Designated Agent:

David G. Robertson
Manager,
Environmental and Safety Engineering
Mazda North American Operations
1500 Enterprise Drive, Allen Park
Michigan 48101-2053

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OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Sec. 573.6 (c)(2):

Some 2006 model year Mazda5 vehicles built between April 12, 2005 and September 16, 2005 with the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) range between JM1CR****60100023 and JM1CR****60110624

Sec. 573.6 (c)(3):

Approximately 7000 vehicles, of which approximately 2,900 vehicles were registered

Sec. 573.6 (c)(4):

Unknown.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(5):

In some 2006 model year Mazda5 vehicles, if the vehicle is operated at very high RPM levels, then the powertrain control logic, which is unique to vehicles produced for the North American market, combined with insufficient insulation around the main silencer, can permit an excessive heat buildup in the exhaust system which in the worst case condition, can cause a vehicle fire.

Mazda North American Operations



Sec. 573.6 (c)(6):

Mazda first became aware of this matter as a result of a single field report received in August 2005. We immediately initiated an investigation of this matter. Since then, we have learned of three additional instances of vehicle fires in the 2006 Mazda5.

On September 16, 2005, Mazda suspended sale of the affected vehicles. In addition, Mazda submitted a Part 573 report to NHTSA on this matter. Owners were instructed to bring their vehicle to a Mazda dealer until we could develop a remedy and make repairs.

We continued to investigate this matter and ultimately have identified the cause of the problem, which is described in section 573.6(c)(5).

Sec. 573.6 (c)(7):

Not Applicable

Sec. 573.6 (c)(8):

Owners of record will be notified of the defect by first class mail during October 2005 and will be instructed to return their vehicle from Mazda dealer for repairs. Repairs will be performed at no cost to the vehicle owner.

A copy of the reimbursement plan to be sent to owners and dealers as an attachment to the owner notification letter is enclosed. With respect to reimbursement, customers will be reimbursed based on the submission of a receipt indicating the amount paid by the customer to remedy this defect.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(9) & (10):

A copy of the notification letter to be sent to owners is enclosed.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(11):

Mazda has assigned recall number 3605J to this action.

Sincerely yours,
Mazda North American Operations

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Robertson'.

for
David G. Robertson
Manager,
Environmental & Safety Engineering



October 2005

2006 MAZDA5 Heat Damage around Main Silencer Recall 3605J

Dear Mazda Owner:

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

Mazda Motor Corporation has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2006 MAZDA5 vehicles produced from April 12, 2005 through September 16, 2005. **If you are a recipient of this notice, your vehicle is included in this campaign.** You may have already received a courtesy letter or a telephone call from Mazda regarding this issue; this letter is the official recall notification letter, and contains additional important information.

What is the problem?

In some 2006 model year Mazda5 vehicles, if the vehicle is operated at very high RPM levels, then the powertrain control logic, which is unique to vehicles produced for the North American market, combined with insufficient insulation around the main silencer, can permit an excessive heat buildup in the exhaust system which in the worst case condition, can cause a vehicle fire. Should a fire occur, occupants of the vehicle could be at risk of injury.

What will Mazda do?

Mazda anticipates that the final repair parts for this concern will be available at the end of October. As soon as the repair is completed, your Mazda dealer will contact you to arrange for you to return your rental or loaner car and pick up your MAZDA5.

What should you do?

If you have not yet taken your vehicle to a Mazda dealership for this concern, we strongly advise you to bring your MAZDA5 to your Mazda dealer as soon as possible.

If you are concerned about driving your MAZDA5 to your Mazda dealer, please contact Mazda's Roadside Assistance Program at 1 (800) 866-1998 (telephone number is also available in your MAZDA5 owner's manual) and arrangements will be made to pick up your vehicle and provide you with a rental or loaner car (at no cost to you) while repairs are being scheduled.

What if you have already paid for a repair to the parts around the main silencer?

If you have already paid for repair resulting from a vehicle fire caused by heat buildup in the exhaust system, you may be eligible for reimbursement of reasonable repair expenses based on Mazda's repair standards. Please complete the enclosed "Reimbursement Application Form," including the necessary documentation, and mail it to us in the pre-addressed envelope provided, allowing 6-8 weeks for processing.

Where is the closest Mazda dealer?

To locate your nearest Mazda dealer, visit our web site and try our "Locate a Dealer" feature at www.MazdaUSA.com or consult your local yellow pages.

Moved or no longer own this vehicle?

If you have moved or no longer own your MAZDA5, please complete the enclosed prepaid *Information Change Card* as soon as possible. This enables us to update our records and notify the current owner.

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

Still have questions?

If you have any questions regarding this campaign, please contact our Customer Assistance Center at (800) 222-5500, option #4.

If Mazda or its dealers do not repair the defect free of charge and within a reasonable amount of time, you may notify the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

Again, we value you as a Mazda customer and are concerned for your safety and your satisfaction with your new MAZDA5. We intend to do all we can to exceed your expectations in this matter.

Sincerely,

Mazda North American Operations

REIMBURSEMENT PLAN

Requirements for Reimbursement

If you meet **all** of the following requirements, you are eligible to receive reimbursement under this plan:

1. An authorized Mazda dealer has inspected your vehicle and completed the 2006 Mazda5 Heat Damage around Main Silencer Recall 3605J.
2. You own or have owned a subject 2006 Mazda5 within the VIN ranges:

Model	VIN Range	Build Date Range
2006 Mazda5	JM1 CR**** 60 100023 - 110624	April 12, 2005 through September 16, 2005

Note: The asterisk "*" can be any number or letter.

3. You have paid for the inspection/repair or replacement of any parts around the main silencer due to heat damage.
4. You have an original or legible copy of the paid repair order or invoice receipt showing:
 - Description of the concern reported
 - Inspection/repair or replacement of any parts around the main silencer due to heat damage
 - Itemized part(s) and labor charges
 - Vehicle model and year, and vehicle identification number (chassis number)
 - Repair date
 - Repair mileage
 - Name, address, and telephone number of the authorized Mazda Dealer or a licensed repair shop where such repairs were performed
 - Your name and address at the time of repair
5. Mail this reimbursement application form in the enclosed envelope to:

**Mazda North American Operations
PO Box 5049
Lake Forest, CA 92609-8549**

Procedure for Reimbursement Request

Once your vehicle has been inspected, repaired or any parts around the main silencer replaced by an authorized Mazda dealer, you may apply for reimbursement by doing the following:

1. Complete the Reimbursement Application Form found on the reverse side of this page.
2. Mail the Reimbursement Application Form with a legible copy of the paid repair order and/or invoice using the enclosed envelope.
3. **Retain copies** of the paid repair order or invoice and this application form for your records.

If you wish to correspond with Mazda regarding this reimbursement plan, please write to the above address and refer to your vehicle identification number (VIN).

Any reimbursement application form that is incomplete, illegible, or sent without the legible copy of the paid repair order or invoice will be returned for completion. If Mazda has any questions concerning your application for reimbursement, you may be contacted. Please allow 6-8 weeks for processing.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR APPLICATION FORM)

