



# Land Rover North America

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

05V-502

(3 pages)

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

Subject: Land Rover Safety Recall B023– Certain 2006 Model Year LR3, Range Rover & Range Rover Sport Vehicles – Automatic Transmission Incorrectly Manufactured

### Summary

Land Rover Action – Land Rover is conducting a Safety Recall involving certain 2006 model year Land Rover LR3, Range Rover and Range Rover Sport vehicles to have the parking pawl guide plate replaced.

Number of Vehicles Involved – 1949 vehicles in the United States and Federated Territories.

Affect on Vehicle Operation – Some vehicles may have been manufactured with an automatic transmission parking pawl guide plate that may not have been hardened as a result of improper material handling of the guide plates during their manufacturing process. Consequently Park may not engage when the lever in the vehicle is moved to Park and all indicators show Park position is achieved.

Service Program – Dealers will be instructed to replace the parking pawl guide plate with one known to have been correctly hardened.

Attached is the detailed information required by the applicable portions of 49 CFR Part 573 - Defect and Non-Compliance Information Report.

Should there be any questions regarding this notice, please feel free to contact me by phone on 201-818-8379 or by email at [djohns58@landrover.com](mailto:djohns58@landrover.com)

Sincerely,

  
Dennis T. Johnston  
Manager, Product Compliance

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49 CFR Part 573 - DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT  
RECALL B023 – Certain 2006 Model Year LR3, Range Rover, and Range Rover Sport Vehicles  
– Automatic Transmission Incorrectly Manufactured

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Land Rover submits the following information concerning a safety recall action that it is voluntarily initiating.

573.6 (c) (2) - Potentially Affected Vehicles

Certain 2006 model year LR3, Range Rover and Range Rover Sport vehicles built at the Solihull (UK) Assembly Plant from August 16 through October 7, 2005; Select vehicles within the following VIN Ranges:

LR3	SALAE24426A354323 to SALAE24426A361594
Range Rover	SALME15426A211815 to SALMF15466A213581
Range Rover Sport	SALSF25436A916973 to SALSF25456A924895

573.6 (c) (3) -- Estimated Population of Vehicles Potentially Affected

1949 vehicles in the United States and Federated Territories.

573.6 (c) (4) - Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Condition

Approximately 7% of the 1949 vehicles may contain an incorrectly manufactured parking pawl guide plate.

573.6 (c) (5) -- Description of the Defect

Some vehicles may have been manufactured with an automatic transmission manufactured with a parking pawl guide plate that may not have been hardened as a result of inadequate material handling of the guide plates during their manufacturing process.

When a load is applied on the parking interlock system (i.e., engaging park with vehicle on a slope) the locking cone, which is a part of the parking pawl system, creates an indentation on a non-hardened guide plate at the cone contact area. An indentation may also result in a raised edge towards the locking cone guide channel which may hinder the locking cone from reaching its end position. Consequently Park may not engage when the lever in the vehicle is moved to Park and all indicators show Park position is achieved.

573.6 (c) (6) -- Chronology of Events

On September 13, 2005, Land Rover Solihull manufacturing reported a concern with the park operation of a Discovery 3/LR3 vehicle during normal in plant vehicle transport process. The transmission was returned to ZF on September 15, 2005 where ZF investigations revealed the following:

The parking pawl guide plate fitted by ZF to ZF6HP26 automatic transmissions from August 9, 2005 to August 22, 2005 (inclusive) and then from August 31, 2005 to September 6, 2005 (inclusive) may have been incorrectly manufactured by a sub-supplier to ZF. The parts were not subjected to the required heat treatment processes, and therefore the parts had not been hardened.

On September 27, 2005 it was determined that there was a risk that some potentially affected vehicles had been released for onward distribution and were outside of the assembly plants control.

A Hold Shipment was issued on October 3, 2005 and updated on October 11, 2005. A Quarantine Notice was issued requesting that potentially affected vehicles be held within the Port of Entry pending further instruction.

This issued was raised on October 5, 2005 to the Land Rover Critical Concerns Review Group (CCRG) for investigation. The investigation was further reviewed at the Land Rover CCRG on October 12, 2005 where the suppliers investigations were reviewed and the scope of the issue confirmed.

The investigation was reviewed at Land Rover's TRG in on October 19, 2005 where the full failure modes and the scope of the affected vehicle population were reviewed, and at the Land Rover Field Review Committee of October 21, 2005, where Land Rover management decided to voluntarily recall these vehicles to replace the parking pawl guide plate.

There have been no reports of any accidents, fires, or injuries as a result of this concern.

#### 573.6 (c) (8) Service Program

The Dealers will be instructed to replace the parking pawl guide plate with one known to have been correctly hardened.

Land Rover plans a notification to dealers on November 2, 2005.

A notification to owners will commence by the end of November.

In accordance with Part 573.13(d)(1), Land Rover is excluding reimbursement for costs incurred by owners for repair of this problem because Land Rover's original new vehicle warranty program would provide for a free repair of this concern for any affected customers.

#### 573.6 (c) (9) -- Press statement and Dealer/Owner Letters

Land Rover does not plan to make a public statement concerning the subject matter of this action. A copy of the notification letters to dealers and owners from Land Rover will be forwarded when available.

#### 573.6 (c) (11) -- Recall Number

Land Rover has assigned recall number B023 to this action.