

NISSAN

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DEPT. OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.

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18501 South Figueroa St.
Gardena, California 90248-4500
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(3 pages)

November 3, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Medford

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 on December 15, 2005.

Very truly,



Frank D. Slaveter
Senior Manager,
Technical Compliance

Encl.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan North America, Inc.

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

2004 - 2006 model year Nissan Maxima vehicles equipped with the Driver Preferred Package and produced from December 4, 2002 through August 11, 2005. Vehicles manufactured prior to and after these dates are not affected. No other Nissan models use the same driver seat as the subject vehicles.

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 102,551.

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

Unknown

5. Description of the Defect:

The subject Maxima vehicles are equipped with a driver seat power lumbar support switch. If the wire harness from this switch is routed incorrectly, the harness could be pinched or chafed against the structural parts on the underside of the driver seat when the seat is in full-down position. Over time the pinched harness in combination with driving vibration may result in a short circuit condition that could overheat the harness and create an outgas condition and ignition of the harness cover.

The name and address of the manufacturer of the subject seat assembly is:

Johnson Controls, Inc.
Automotive Systems Group
49200 Halyard Drive
Plymouth, MI 48170

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

April, 2005 - Nissan received a report regarding a thermal incident of the driver seat while the vehicle was parked.

April - October, 2005 – Nissan conducted an investigation to determine the scope and root cause of the thermal incident.

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

7. Description of Corrective Action:

The lumbar wire harnesses will be replaced with new ones and routed correctly according to updated routing specifications.

Nissan plans to begin notifying owners of potentially affected vehicles on December 15, 2005.

8. Copy of Notices:

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