

# NISSAN

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**NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.**

Corporate Office  
18501 South Figueroa St.  
Gardena, California 90248-4500  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 191  
Gardena, California 90248-0191  
Telephone: 310.532.3111

October 7, 2005

Mr. George Person  
Chief, Recall Analysis Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Ref: 05V-458

Dear Mr. Person:

The enclosed communication is being provided pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573.6(c)(9).

Technical Compliance Department

Encl.

Subject: 2005 Xterra Tow Hitch Voluntary Safety Recall Campaign Update #1

Attention - Dealer Principals, Sales, Parts and Service Managers

\*\*\*\*\* Update \*\*\*\*\*

The following is an update to the original announcement of this campaign.

The date to notify Xterra owners has been moved ahead to October 3 (from October 24). This initial communication will be to all 2005 Xterra owners to advise them (if a Nissan Accessory Tow Hitch is currently installed on their vehicle) not to use the hitch until a replacement hitch is provided by Nissan.

\*\*\*\*\* Dealer Actions\*\*\*\*\*

The following is an update to the dealer actions requested by Nissan to support this campaign:

- Federal law requires that new vehicles in dealer inventory which are the subject of a safety recall must be corrected prior to delivery under a sale or lease. Failure to do so can result in civil penalties by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).
- Identify any 2005 Xterra vehicles in your inventory which are equipped with a factory installed (Nevada Tow Package) or dealer installed (P/N 999T5-KR100) genuine Nissan Xterra accessory tow hitch.
- Place these vehicles on sales hold. No further action is required at this time. Do not remove any factory installed (Nevada Tow Package) or dealer installed (P/N 999T5-KR100) genuine Nissan Xterra accessory tow hitch from any vehicles in dealer inventory at this time.
- Nissan is developing an interim countermeasure which will allow the tow hitch to be removed safely, while ensuring the integrity of the electrical wiring. The interim countermeasure consists of a connector plug set that will be applied to the vehicle after removal of the tow hitch and harness assemblies. Customers will be issued a due-bill which will be redeemable upon dealership receipt of countermeasured hitches.
- Nissan expects to provide the appropriate hitch removal procedures, connector plug sets and related claim/customer handling information to Nissan dealers as soon as they become available.
- Stop the installation of any genuine Nissan Xterra accessory tow hitches (P/N 999T5-KR100) and return any of these hitches in your parts inventory to your facing PDC. Use Code "G" as the reason the part is being returned to Nissan. Return the hitches to Nissan as soon as possible. Do not hold these hitches at your dealership
- If you have orders placed with Nissan for these hitches, please note that this P/N is on parts sales restriction and that all current orders will be cancelled.
- Only genuine Nissan Xterra Accessory Tow Hitches are affected by this Safety Recall Campaign. Do NOT return any other accessory hitches.

Thank you in advance for your patience and your co-operation.

If you have any additional questions related to this program, please contact your Dealer Parts and Service Manager (DPSM).

Nissan Parts and Service Operations  
09/28/2005

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Dear Mr. Person:

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Technical Compliance Department

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Subject: 2005 Xterra Tow Hitch Voluntary Safety Recall Campaign

05V-458

Attention - Dealer Principals, Sales, Parts and Service Managers

\*\*\*\*\* Important \*\*\*\*\*

Nissan is initiating a Voluntary Safety Recall Campaign related to genuine Nissan Accessory Tow Hitches installed on 2005 Xterra vehicles. These hitches were installed at either a Nissan post-production vehicle processing center or were sold as an accessory by Nissan dealers. Nissan has identified a problem with some of the welded joints in the hitch assembly which may result in separation of the hitch from the vehicle when being used to tow. No other Nissan models are involved.

Nissan plans to notify all owners of 2005 Xterra owners by October 24, 2005 to advise them (if a Nissan Accessory Tow Hitch is currently installed on their vehicle) not to use the hitch until a replacement hitch becomes available. Xterra owners will be notified via a second letter when a replacement hitch becomes available for installation on their vehicle.

Nissan is requesting that all Nissan dealerships immediately take the following actions to support this campaign:

- Identify any 2005 Xterra vehicles in your inventory which are equipped with a factory installed (Nevada Tow Package) or dealer installed (P/N 999T5-KR100) genuine Nissan Xterra accessory tow hitch and place these vehicles on sales hold.
- Stop the installation of any genuine Nissan Xterra accessory tow hitches (P/N 999T5-KR100) and return any of these hitches in your parts inventory to your facing PDC. Use Code "G" as the reason the part is being returned to Nissan.
- If you have orders placed with Nissan for these hitches, please note that all current orders will be cancelled.
- Only genuine Nissan Xterra Accessory Tow Hitches are affected by this Safety Recall Campaign. Do NOT return any other accessory hitches.

As further actions are developed to support this campaign, you will be kept informed. Thank you in advance for your co-operation as we jointly address this important issue.

If you have any additional questions related to this program, please contact your Dealer Parts and Service Manager (DPSM).

Nissan Parts and Service Operations  
09/23/2005

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400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Ref: 05V-458

Dear Mr. Person:

The enclosed communication is being provided pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573.6(c)(9).

Technical Compliance Department

Encl.

05U-458

Subject: 2005 Xterra Tow Hitch Voluntary Safety Recall Campaign Update #2

Attention - Dealer Principals, Sales, Parts and Service Managers

The following is an update for this campaign.

\*\*\*\*\* Tow Hitch Removal/Disposition Instructions \*\*\*\*\*

Inter Repair Instructions for removal and disposal of installed Nissan Accessory Tow Hitches from vehicles in dealer inventory are expected to be posted on NNANet.com under My Documents in the Parts/Campaigns and Service/Campaigns category by 3PM EDT on Thursday, October 6.

Important: Claims information may not be available upon the initial release of the instruction. You will be advised when this information becomes available.

\*\*\*\*\* Parts Availability \*\*\*\*\*

This is to advise you that Connector Plug Sets to support this activity are being shipped overnight directly to your dealership scheduled for arrival at your dealership on October 6. The quantities are based on the number of vehicles in your inventory equipped with the factory installed tow hitch. Additional Connector Plug Sets can be obtained by e-mailing your request to the following e-mail address:

To: NNA FQA Support@Nissan-USA.com
From: _____
Subject: Additional Connector Plug Sets for 2005 Xterra Tow Hitch Removal
Dealer Name: _____
Dealer Number: _____
e-mail address: _____
or FAX Number: _____
Please ship _____ additional Connector Plug Sets.

Note: There are limited quantities of Connector Plug Sets available. Please do not order more than needed or place duplicate orders.

If you have any additional questions related to this program, please contact your Dealer Parts and Service Manager (DPSM).

Nissan Parts and Service Operations

10/05/2005