

## AMERICAN SUZUKI MOTOR CORPORATION

MEDELVED NVS-215

October 11, 2005

2005 OCT 12 P 4: 25

DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Mr. Ronald Medford
Senior Administrator for Vehicle Safety
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 7th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Medford:

Subject: Recall No. 05V-452

Enclosed is a copy of the notification letter concerning the subject recall that Suzuki Del Caribe, Inc. sent to the Suzuki dealer in St. Thomas (U.S. Virgin Islands).

Please contact me if you have any questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN/SUZUKI MOTOR CORPORATION

Kenneth M. Bush

Associate Director, Government Relations



To:

Patrick Desfosse

**Community Motors** 

From:

Warranty Department

Date:

October 5, 2005

Ref :

Safety Recall Campaign for Front Brake Disc Replacement

Models: All 1999-2005 Grand Vitara and all 2001-2006 XL-7

Suzuki Motor Corporation has decided that a defect which relates to the vehicle safety exists in all 1999 through 2005 Grand Vitara and all 2001 through 2006 XL-7 sport utility vehicles (SUV). Suzuki Motors Corporation has determined that the front brake disc of the identified vehicles may break under severe driving conditions. The breakage can occur in conditions where the vehicle is driven on a regular basis on extremely steep paved down-slopes while continuously applying the brakes. In the worst case, the front brakes become inoperative and the vehicle may pull to one side. This could result in a crash without prior warning.

Suzuki del Caribe is requesting that all Suzuki dealers conduct and make the arrangements necessary for this important safety campaign. The recall service will be done at no cost to the customer.

For instructions of the procedure of this safety recall campaign, refer to the Attached procedure of this notification or see the Service Manual in Front Brake Disc Removal section.

## 1. Affected Vehicles.

Vehicles with this condition include all 1999 through 2005 Grand Vitara and all 2001 through 2006 XL-7, in these cases, vehicles are determined by VIN range from February 1998 to August 2005, productions which were equipped with 16-inch wheels and were shipped to the dealer in St. Thomas U.S.V.I. This campaign will apply only to vehicles in this territory.

# 2. Dealer safety Recall Campaign Responsibility.

Dealers are to perform this Voluntary Safety Recall on all affected vehicles upon customers request regardless of vehicle's age, mileage or date visit.

All affected vehicles in the dealer stock inventory, if any, are subject to this Voluntary Safety Recall Campaign, must be completed prior to the retail sale or lease of affected vehicles. Is a violation of Federal Law for a dealer to deliver a new motor vehicle or any new or used item of motor vehicle equipment (including tire) covered by the notification under a sale or lease until the defect or noncompliance is remedied.

If affected vehicles are currently in your Service Department or are brought in for other services, use this opportunity to perform this recall and notify the customer of the campaign completion.

#### 3. Parts Information.

Parts are required for this Important Safety Recall. For the countermeasure parts, SDC will send the following parts free of charge basis in the period of the end of October. Part Numbers are 55211-65D21 and 55211-65D30.

Note: the reason why two part numbers is because there are two different vendors. The parts are actually the same.

# 4. Basic Information.

Warranty Category: 2 (Campaign Claim)

Complain Code: 99

Defect Code: HQ

Basic Code: MK9999 / 1.0 hour per vehicle

Causal Part; 55211-65D13 / (0) pc.

## 5. Owner notification.

A draft sample of the Owners Recall Notice has been attached to this notification.

# 6. Costumer Reimbursement Plan.

If a owner vehicle is included in the safety recall campaign and have paid for the repair or replacement of the front brake discs, may be eligible for full or partial reimbursement. Suzuki's reimbursement plan covers Suzuki Grand Vitara, and XL-7 vehicles produced from February, 1998 to August, 2005. Please note the following for which Suzuki may exclude reimbursement:

- Only repairs that are the subject of the safety recall are reimbursable. Additional
  expenses such as towing, rental, accommodations, damage repairs, etc will not be
  reimbursed.
- Reimbursement may be limited to suggested list price on parts and the Suzuki published flat rate time allowance.
- An owner will not be eligible for reimbursement if the expenses for repairs are performed more than 10 days after the date of the last owner notification letter sent by Suzuki.
- Reimbursement claims may also be excluded when adequate documentation is not submitted by the claimant. Your authorized Suzuki dealer will request an original or copy of your receipt for the recall repair or replacement, and your owner notification letter.

To obtain information or request reimbursement, contact Suzuki del Caribe for instructions.

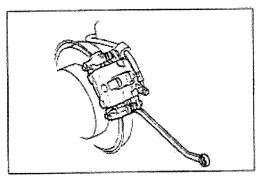
Suzuki Owners will be notified by mail on or around at the end of October for this Voluntary Safety Campaign. Please refer to the attached owner notification letter.

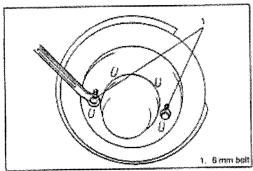
If you have any questions regarding this recall, please contact SDC Warranty Department for more details. Your cooperation and assistance regarding this Safety Recall will be highly appreciated.

Sincerely,

José E. Morales

Warranty Department Manager.





## FRONT BRAKE DISC

### REMOVAL

- 1) Hoist vehicle and remove wheel.
- 2) Remove caliper assembly by loosening carrier bolts (2 pcs.).

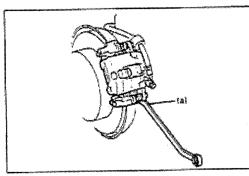
#### CAUTION:

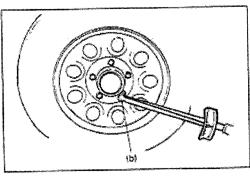
During removal, be careful not to damage brake flexible hose and not to depress brake pedal.

3) Remove disc by using 8 mm bolts (2 pcs.).

## INSPECTION

Refer to FRONT DISC BRAKE PAD INSPECTION.





# INSTALLATION

## NOTE:

See NOTE at the beginning of this section.

- 1) Install disc to wheel hub.
- 2) Install caliper assembly to steering knuckle.
- 3) Torque caliper carrier bolts to specification.

## **Tightening Torque**

(a): 35 N·m (8.5 kg·m, 61.5 lb-ft)

4) Torque front wheel nuts to specifications.

### Tightening Torque

(b): 100 N·m (10.0 kg-m, 72.5 lb-ft)

5) Upon completion of installation, perform brake test.

SAMPLE ANNEX 3

#### IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

Dear SUZUKI Owner.

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

Suzuki Motors Corporation has recognized that a defect relating to vehicle safety exists in certain Vitara, Grand Vitara and Grand Vitara XL-7 vehicles manufactured from February 1995 through August, 2005. According to our records, you are the owner of one of these vehicles.

Suzuki Motors Corporation has determined that the front brake discs of the identified vehicles may break under severe driving conditions. The breakage can occur in conditions where the vehicle is driven on a regular basis on extremely steep down-slopes while continuously applying the brakes. In the worst case, the front brakes may become un-operative and the vehicle may pull to one side. This could result in a crash without prior warning.

To minimize the risk of injury or death, do not ride, your Suzuki dealer will perform the necessary inspection and repair for your vehicle. The repair consists of replacing the front brake dises. This service will be performed at no cost to you for parts and labor.

We kindly request you to contact your authorized Suzuki dealer to schedule an appointment for this safety recall. Instructions have already been sent to your dealer. The recall service, if you have an appointment, can be completed in about one hour(1.0) depending on the vehicle's condition. Additional time may be required to schedule and process your vehicle. If your dealer has a large number of vehicles awaiting service, this additional time may be significant. Please ask your dealer how much additional time may be needed. If it is necessary for your dealer to order parts to perform the recall service, you may have to leave your vehicle with the dealer overnight, so check with your dealer. When you pick up your repaired vehicle, please allow a few extra minutes for your dealer to prepare and complete the necessary warranty paperwork with you.

If you no longer own this vehicle, please inform Suzuki del Caribe, Inc. at 787-622-0600, fax 787-622-0669 or authorized Suzuki dealer of change of ownership information.

If your dealer does not make the inspection/repair free of charge and/or within a reasonable period of time, we recommend you to contact Suzuki del Caribe, Inc. at 787-622-9600. You will need to have your Vehicle Identification Number ready when calling.

If you believe that (1) Suzuki del Caribe, Inc. or your Suzuki dealer has failed to or is unable to perform the recall service without charge, or (2) you believe Suzuki del Caribe, Inc. has failed to or is unable to perform the recall procedure to your vehicle within reasonable period of time after you first brought your vehicle to your Suzuki dealer, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590 or call the toll free the Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <a href="http://www.safercar.gov">http://www.safercar.gov</a>.

If your vehicle is included in the safety recall campaign and you have paid for the repair or replacement of the front brake discs, you may be eligible for full or partial reimbursement. Suzuki's reimbursement plan covers Suzuki Vitara, Grand Vitara, and Grand Vitara XL-7 vehicles produced from February, 1995 to August, 2005. Please note the following for which Suzuki may exclude reimbursement:

- Only repairs that are the subject of the safety recall are reimbursable. Additional expenses such as towing, rental, accommodations, damage repairs, etc will not be reimbursed.
- Reimbursement may be limited to suggested list price on parts and the Suzuki published flat rate time allowance.
- An owner will not be eligible for reimbursement if the expenses for repairs are performed more than 10 days after the date of the last owner notification letter sent by Suzuki.
- Reimbursement claims may also be excluded when adequate documentation is not submitted by the claimant. Your authorized Suzuki dealer will request an original or copy of your receipt for the recall repair or replacement, and your owner notification letter.

To obtain information or request reimbursement, contact your Suzuki dealer or {insert information about how to contact Suzuki del Caribe}.

We sincerely regret any inconvenience this safety recall campaign may cause, but we are certain you understand our interest in your safety and your continued satisfaction with Suzuki products.

#### NOTICE TO LESSORS

Under Federal law, the lessor of a vehicle who receives this letter must provide a copy of it to vehicle lessee(s), the lessor must also keep a record of the lesse(s) to whom this letter is sent and the applicable Vehicle Identification Number. (For the purposes of this notice, a lessor means a person or entity that in the last twelve months prior to this notification has been the owner, as referenced on the person for a term of at leased vehicles. A leased vehicle to another person for the term of at least four months

Sincerely,

Suzuki del Caribe, Inc.