



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

*July 18, 2006*

DON L. GOOD  
PRODUCT COMPLIANCE SPECIALIST  
POLARIS INDUSTRIES, INC.  
7290 VIKING BOULEVARD E  
WYOMING, MN 55092

NVS-215  
06V-258

Subject: SHIFT LEVER SHAFT WELD FAILURE

Dear MR. GOOD:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

VICTORY/KINGPIN/2004-2005  
VICTORY/VEGAS/2004

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 06V-258

**Mfg's Report Date:** July 12, 2006

**Components:** POWER TRAIN: AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION: LEVER AND  
LINKAGE: FLOOR SHIFT

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 3,902

**Summary:**

ON CERTAIN MOTORCYCLES, THE WELDED JOINT ON THE SHIFT LEVER  
SHAFT MAY FAIL CAUSING THE SHIFT LEVER TO BECOME INOPERABLE.

**Consequence:**

IF THE WELD FAILS, THE OPERATOR CANNOT SHIFT GEARS, INCREASING THE  
RISK OF A CRASH.

**Remedy:**

DEALERS WILL REPLACE THE SHIFT LEVER SHAFT FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON JULY 28, 2006. OWNERS MAY CONTACT VICTORY AT 763-417-8650.

**Notes:**

VICTORY RECALL NO. V-06-04. CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577. However, please note that in the first paragraph you state '2006' Victory motorcycles, but in the next paragraph it is the '2004-2005' models.

Also, the reimbursement rule became effective on January 15, 2003. Accordingly, following that date, any 573 Notice that we receive must contain a reimbursement plan. Please read Part 573.13 for the requirements of the plan. Therefore, if these motorcycles are not covered under a warranty, a reimbursement statement must be added to the owner letter. i.e., "If you had this repair performed before you received this letter, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of the problem associated with this recall. For more information contact Victory Consumer Service Department at 1-763-417-8650."

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to dealers and distributors as soon as it becomes available.

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin on July 28, 2006. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before October 30, 2006.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at [patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov](mailto:patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov) or [delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov](mailto:delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Person", with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

George H. Person  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement