



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

October 25, 2006

FRANK SLAVETER
SENIOR MANAGER
NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.
P.O BOX 685001
FRANKLIN TN 37068-5009

NVS-215
06V-402

Subject: STEERING WHEEL LOCK INTELLIGENT KEY/FMVSS 114

Dear MR. SLAVETER:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent noncompliance 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:
NISSAN/MAXIMA/2007

NHTSA Campaign Number: 06V-402

Mfg's Report Date: October 18, 2006

Components: STEERING: COLUMN LOCKING: ANTI-THEFT DEVICE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 9,506

Summary:

CERTAIN PASSENGER VEHICLES EQUIPPED WITH AN 'INTELLIGENT KEY' FAIL TO CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 114, "THEFT PROTECTION." DURING AN INSPECTION OF SOME VEHICLES AT THE ASSEMBLY PLANT, IT WAS FOUND THAT THE STEERING WHEEL WAS LOCKED WITH THE IGNITION KNOB IN THE "OFF" POSITION BUT THE VEHICLE TRANSMISSION NOT BEING IN THE "PARK" POSITION.

Consequence:

IF THE KEY IS TURNED TO THE "OFF" POSITION WITHOUT THE TRANSMISSION BEING IN THE "PARK" POSITION, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE STEERING WHEEL CAN LOCK WHEN TURNED TO THE RIGHT.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL INSPECT AND REPLACE THE STEERING WHEEL LOCK ASSEMBLY FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON DECEMBER 18, 2006. OWNERS MAY CONTACT NISSAN AT 1-800-647-7261.

Notes:

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).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

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

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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 or before December 18, 2006. Since this is close to the end of the quarter, the first quarterly report will be due on or before April 30, 2007.

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@dot.gov or delia.lopez@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



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