

Mr Smith
Date, 2006

06 V-040
(3 pages)

Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

**Subject: Notification of Recall Pursuant to 49 CFR 573 (2006)
2005 Model Year Bentley Arnage**

Dear Mr. Smith:

This information is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR 573 (2006)).

573.6 (c) (1) **Manufacturer's Name**
Bentley Motors Limited

Importer
Bentley Motors, Inc.

573.6 (c) (2) **Identification of Vehicles**

Make : Bentley

Line : Arnage R and Arnage T

Model Years : Model Year 2005

Month/Year
of Manufacture : June 2004 to May 2005

VIN Numbers : in the range from SCBLC37FX5CX10211 to SCBLC37F55CX10911
of Affected
Vehicles

Other
Identification : None

- 573.6 (c) (3) **Number of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect**
27 in the USA
- 573.6 (c) (4) **Percentage of Vehicles Actually Containing Defect**
Cannot be determined. This is a corrective action following the discovery of a component that did not conform to design specifications.
- 573.6 (c) (5) **Description of Noncompliance/Defect**
On the vehicles affected, due to the fitment of road wheels that may have an incorrect finish on the bolt cone seat, the potential exists for the wheel fixing bolts to loosen. This defect is limited to 2 specific styles of wheel. The cone seat of these specific wheels was painted and thus did not offer the necessary friction to keep the bolts fixed. This defect could lead to loosening of the bolts and potentially to the road wheel becoming detached from the hub, however this condition has not been witnessed by or reported to Bentley Motors Limited. Bentley is not aware of any accidents or injuries related to this matter. In addition, 4 parts were supplied to dealers as aftermarket replacements. Dealers will provide Bentley Motors Inc. with a list of these affected vehicles for remedial action. Affected customers will receive notifications as described below.
- 573.6 (c) (6) **Basis for Determination**
During routine vehicle durability testing by Bentley Motors Limited it was reported that the road wheel bolts had loosened in some rare cases. Examination of similar new road wheels revealed that the bolt cone seats did not meet the required specification. The defect was corrected by fitting parts correct to specification. The range of affected vehicles has been determined to be all vehicles built with painted 7 or 12 spoke alloy road wheels up to the cut off point for the supply of conforming road wheels.
- 573.6 (c) (7) **Noncompliance Test Result**
Not applicable
- 573.6 (c) (8) **Proposed Remedial Program**
Bentley Motors, Inc. will inform its authorized dealers to replace all road wheels and wheel fixing bolts (this is a precaution to ensure that any bolt which may have been contaminated by paint from the bolt cone seat is not reused), including the spare road wheel where applicable, on all affected vehicles. Notification dates are anticipated as follows:
Dealers: On or about February 17th, 2006
Owners: On or about February 24th, 2006
- 573.6 (c) (9) **Submission of Communications**
A representative copy of all bulletins and other communications sent to dealers and owners will be submitted within five (5) days of dealer/owner notification.
- 573.6 (c) (10) **Proposed Owner Letter**
A proposed owner notification letter will be submitted to you within the next few weeks for your review.
- 573.6 (c) (11) **Manufacturer's Recall Code**

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Bentley has assigned the code "RE06/01" to this recall.

Sincerely,

Stephen Worrall
Fixed Operations Manager