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06 V - 068 (4 pages)

RE: 2005 Mitsubishi Endeavor Front Brake Caliper Recall

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

Mitsubishi Motors of North America, Inc. (MMNA) submits this letter pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 573.5-Defect and Noncompliance Information Report (DIR). The DIR is for a potential safety related defect on certain 2005 Mitsubishi Endeavor vehicles distributed in the United States by MMNA and in Puerto Rico by Mitsubishi Motor Sales of Caribbean (MMSC). The metal used to manufacture the front brake calipers may be brittle and fracture, resulting in partial loss of brake force during stopping. There have been no reports of vehicle crash, injury or property damage associated with this condition.

#### 1. Manufacturer's Name

Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.

2. Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect

	onvienty contin	ming the Delete		
Make	Line	Model	Manufacturing Period	
		Year(s)		
Mitsubishi	Endeavor	2005	18 April 2005 ~ 15 June 2005	
			(Revised)	

#### 3. Total Number of Vehicles

Vehicle Line	Number of Vehicles		
	United States	Puerto Rico	
Endeavor	4,359	173	

<sup>\*</sup> This recall will also be launched in Canada (122) and Mexico (494), no other markets are affected.

#### 4. Approximate percentage of vehicles actually containing the defect:

It is impossible to estimate the actual number of vehicles that contain the defect, however, owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be notified, and those vehicles will be included in this campaign.



# 5. Defect Description

The metal used to manufacture the front disc brake caliper may be brittle due to improper metallurgy. This could lead to breakage of the brake caliper and subsequent unexpected partial loss of braking force. Unexpected partial loss of braking force could result in a vehicle crash.

# 6. Chronological Summary of Events Leading to Determination

- On or about February 14, 2006, Mitsubishi received a report of a broken caliper on a 2005 Endeavor at a local dealership. The suspect caliper was collected and forwarded immediately to the vendor for analysis.
- A search of the warranty claims revealed two additional caliper failures, one on the east coast and the other in Canada. Those calipers were also collected and forwarded to the vendor for analysis.
- On or about February 24, 2006 the vendor reported that the molten metal used to make calipers on April 8, 2005 may not have been properly blended which could result in a brittle condition.
- On February 28, 2006, the MMNA-Manufacturing Executive Committee met and decided that a safety recall would be required to inspect the calipers on the affected vehicles and replace any that are from the April 8, 2005 production.
- On March 1, 2006, MMNA Sales received official notification that a decision to conduct a recall had been finalized and a Part 573.5 report was drafted for submission to the agency.

# 7. Test Results or Data Used to Determine Non-compliance N/A

# 8. Proposed Remedy Description

All owners of the affected vehicle will be contacted by first class mail and encouraged to come into their local Mitsubishi dealer for inspection of the production lot number on the front brake calipers. Those calipers within the production range will be replaced with new caliper components. Owner notification is planned within 30 days of this notice.

#### 9. Notice(s) and Bulletin(s)

The owner notification and technical bulletin drafts will be provided as soon as they are available.

#### 10. Reimbursements

Owners seeking reimbursement for any expenses relating to this recall will be directed in the notification letter to contact Mitsubishi Customer Relations for instructions on how to apply for a refund.

# 11. Dealer Notification

MMNA Sales Division will notify the dealership organization within three working days of this report to stop the delivery, sale or demonstration of the affected vehicles until they have been inspected to determine if defective calipers are installed. Vehicles that have defective calipers will be sidelined until replacement parts are available. Vehicles with calipers not in the defective production range will be cleared of the recall and returned to the saleable condition. A draft copy of the dealer notice is attached for your review.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

**Kent Reeves** 

National Manager, Product Support & Technical Compliance

Telephone 714-372-6362

Fax 714-934-4242

Email kreeves@mmsa.com

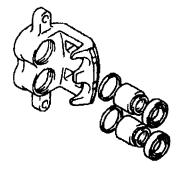
### Repairs and Parts

Remove the front tire and wheel assemblies. Inspect the production data stamp on both front disc brake calipers.

IMPORTANT: The left and right side calipers may have different production date stamps. Be sure to check on both sides.



- ◆ If the caliper production date stamp is <u>5D08</u>, <u>do not retail the vehicle</u>. When replacement parts are received, install the brake caliper kit as described in SR-06-001.
- If the caliper production date stamp is <u>any number except 5D08</u>, <u>the calipers do not require replacement</u>. The vehicle may be retailed. Submit a campaign claim for C0602MXX.



Only a small portion of affected vehicles will require parts replacement. Replacement parts will be available on March 20. A supply of <u>brake caliper kits</u> will be automatically shipped to your dealership, based on your affected vehicle inventory as of March 10. Dealers may order additional parts for customer vehicles based on the retailed VIN list that will be included with the paper copy of SR-06-001.

Part Number	Description	Dealer Net
	Front Disc Brake Caliper Kit LH	\$
	Front Disc Brake Caliper Kit RH	\$

**BRAKE CALIPER KIT** 

If you have any questions or concerns about this procedure, please call the Mitsubishi Tech Line (800-446-6064). We apologize for your inconvenience.

Dave McKenzie Vice President, Service Mitsubishi Motors North America Inc.