



Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.

100-100000
-115

May 17, 2006

Mr. George Person
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

2006 MAY 24 A 9:30
DEFECT INVESTIGATION

06 V-184

Re: Defect Report Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573

Dear Mr. Person:

Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. (KMC) has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2006 model year Kawasaki Motorcycles. The following information, constituting a Defect Report, provides the information immediately available. Additional information needed to fully comply with the reporting requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.5(c) will be submitted in a subsequent report.

- 1) The manufacturer's name: The vehicles in question were manufactured by Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd., of Akashi, Japan, and imported to the U.S. by Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.
- 2) Identification of the affected vehicles potentially containing the defect: Affected vehicles consist of the 2006 model year Kawasaki ZX1400A6F.
- 3) The total number of vehicles potentially containing the defect: A total of 2,167 of the affected models were imported to the U.S.
- 4) The percentage of vehicles or items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect: For purposes of this recall 100% of the vehicles will be assumed to contain the defect.
- 5) A description of the defect including both brief summary and a detailed description, with graphic aids as necessary, of the nature and physical location of the defect: On eligible units, the Vehicle Down Sensor mounting bolts may not be tightened sufficiently. There is a possibility that if the bolts loosen and the Vehicle Down Sensor comes out of the bracket, the engine could stall resulting in loss of engine power and a loss of control.
- 6) A chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information with their dates of receipt: This information will be provided in a supplemental report.
- 7) The manner in which and the date when the information about the defect was obtained: This information will be provided in a supplemental report.

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- 8) A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect. The estimated date on which it will begin sending notifications to owners that there is a safety-related defect: KMC will distribute a Recall Service Bulletin to all Kawasaki motorcycle dealers. The repair consists of tightening the Vehicle Down Sensor mounting bolts to the proper torque. Customers will be advised that they can request reimbursement from KMC if they previously incurred costs to have this problem corrected.

Note: KMC requests that NHTSA defer posting information concerning this Recall to its web site until at least May 26, 2006, the date of the customer notification. This way, KMC will have the opportunity to notify its dealers prior to public release of this information; dealer will thus be able to provide information to answer customer inquiries.

- 9) A representative copy of all notices, bulletins and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance. A draft copy of the customer letter will be provided to NHTSA as soon as it becomes available. Copies of the final dealer bulletin and customer letter will be provided to NHTSA when they become available.

Sincerely,
KAWASAKI MOTORS CORP., U.S.A.


By: ROL

Roger F. Hagie
Director Public Affairs