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STATE INVESTIGATION

SALES DIVISION
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CYPRESS, CALIFORNIA 90630-0064

August 31, 2006

Ms. Kathleen DeMeter, Esq.
Director, Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

06V-334
(9 Pages)

Re: Defect Information Report

Ms. DeMeter:

In accordance with the provisions of 49 CFR 573 - Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. (MMNA) hereby furnishes this Defect Information Report, which contains details of a potential lower cross member defect in certain 2007 model year MMNA manufactured Eclipse and Eclipse Spyder vehicles.

The recall affects 1,516 vehicles distributed by MMNA Sales Division for vehicles produced between June 21, 2006 and July 19, 2006. No vehicles are located in Puerto Rico. This recall also affects approximately 40 vehicles in Canada.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, you may reach me at one of the contact points listed below.

Sincerely,



Kent Reeves, Manager
National Manager, Product Support & Technical Compliance
Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.
Telephone: 714-372-6362
Fax: 714-934-4242
Email: kreeves@mmsa.com

Defect Information Report

Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc hereby submits this Defect Information Report covering certain 2007 model year Eclipse and Eclipse Spyder vehicles. The contents of this report have been arranged to follow the sequence set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations Title 49 § 573.5(c).

1. The manufacturer's name:

Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc - Manufacturing Division

2. Identification of the vehicles and defect item;

<u>Make</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Model Year</u>	<u>Dates of Manufacture</u>
Mitsubishi	Eclipse & Eclipse Spyder	2007	21 June 2006 ~ 19 July 2006

Item: Lower Cross Member Assembly.

3. Total number of vehicles:

<u>Make</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Number of US vehicles Involved</u>
Mitsubishi	Eclipse & Spyder	1,516

4. Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the potential defect:

It is impossible to know the actual percentage of vehicles that may contain the defect; however, all potentially affected vehicles will be inspected, and repaired as necessary.

5. Description of the defect including summary:

The metal forming part of the right rear portion of the front cross member was improperly stamped resulting in the metal becoming thinner in cross-section than specified. The defective stamping is located in a high stress area and could over time break and allow the passenger side lower control arm to separate from the cross member without prior warning.

6. Chronological summary of events leading to this determination:

An associate at the stamping supplier noticed a small split in the material and some deformation on a cross member at the right rear area near 1 of 4 body attachment points. Inspection revealed that the deformation was due to necking, (material stretching) and becoming thinner than specified in that area. Their inspection revealed that parts with deformation were stamped from 13 June 2006 through 10 July 2006. This coincided with an increase in strokes per minute of the stamping press. These stampings were subsequently used in Mitsubishi Eclipse and Eclipse Spyder vehicles produced between 21 June 2006 and 19 July 2006.

Shipment of vehicles was immediately halted and an inspection process was developed in conjunction with the vendor to inspect vehicles within this production range that were still at the assembly plant. All vehicles in the manufacturer's control were inspected and/or repaired.

On August 24, 2006, MMNA Manufacturing Division met and determined that the subject cross member could break over time and should therefore be subject to a safety recall campaign.

MMNA Manufacturing Division then contacted MMNA Sales Division with this information and requested that documentation to the NHTSA be drafted and provided within 5 working days of their notice.

7. Test results for a noncompliance:

Not applicable.

8. Description of the proposed remedy:

Mitsubishi Motors Sales Division will escort specially trained representatives to each dealership to inspect the subject vehicles to determine the condition of the cross member. Vehicles that do not exhibit improper stamping of the cross member will be cleared of the recall, marked as inspected and OK and returned to inventory of sale. Vehicles exhibiting a defect will have a new cross member installed. For vehicles in remote area dealerships (e.g. Hawaii) parts and repair instructions will be provided with the directive to replace the cross member. Service parts are readily available.

9. Launch date:

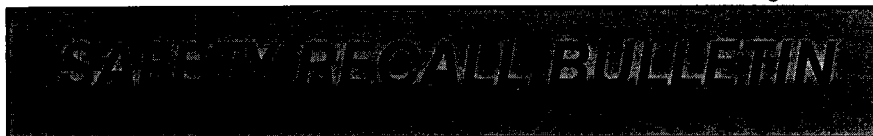
Mitsubishi expects to launch this recall to the dealers on or about September 11, 2006 and to the vehicle owners on or about September 18, 2006. It has been determined that because the condition occurs over time, the three day dealer notification rule does not apply, however a stop sale notice will be provided to the dealers when the recall launches on or about September 11, 2006.

10. Notices, bulletins and communication:

A draft copy of the Safety Recall Bulletin and owner notification letter is attached for your review and approval.

11. Reimbursements:

It is not anticipated that any reimbursements should be necessary, however owners will be instructed in the notification letter on how to submit a request for reimbursement should it be necessary.



SUBJECT:		No: SR-06-004	
FRONT CROSSMEMBER — SAFETY RECALL CAMPAIGN		DATE: September, 2006	
		MODEL: See below	
CIRCULATE TO:	<input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL MANAGER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARTS MANAGER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TECHNICIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SERVICE ADVISOR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SERVICE MANAGER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WARRANTY PROCESSOR	<input type="checkbox"/> SALES MANAGER

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PURPOSE

The metal forming part of the right rear portion of the front crossmember was improperly stamped resulting in the metal becoming thinner than specified. The defective stamping is located in a high stress area and could over time break and allow the passengers side lower control arm to separate from the crossmember without prior warning. If inspection by authorized personnel determines it necessary to replace the crossmember (or if instructed to replace the crossmember without inspection due to remote location where inspection is not possible), follow the replacement procedure in this bulletin.

A list of affected inventory and sold VINs for your dealership is included with this mailing.

AFFECTED VEHICLES

2007 Eclipse/Eclipse Spyder **produced from 6/21/06 to 7/19/06**

CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION

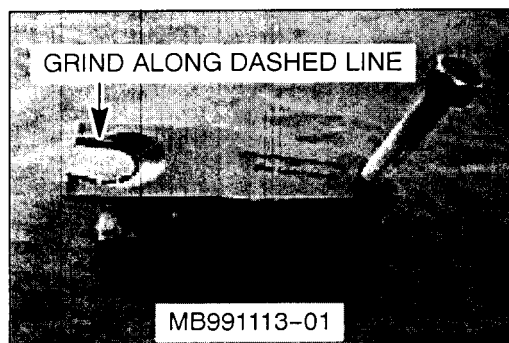
A letter will be sent to all owners of affected vehicles telling them to bring their vehicle to their Mitsubishi Motors dealer to have the crossmember inspected and replaced if needed. A copy of the customer notification letter appears later in this bulletin.

PROCEDURE

Before starting this campaign procedure, **CHECK ON THE WARRANTY SUPERSCREEN** to verify that the vehicle is an affected VIN for this campaign and that this campaign procedure has not already been completed. **Some vehicles within the production range were inspected and repaired at the assembly plant prior to shipment to your dealership.**

If the front crossmember requires replacement, follow the procedure below:

1. Record the radio presets and disconnect the battery.
2. Follow the service manual procedure in Group 32 of the 2007 Eclipse/Eclipse Spyder service manual for replacing the crossmember **except for the steps listed on the following page.**



NOTE: If special tool MB991113-01 – ball joint remover is used, it will need to be modified. Grind the opening, in the area shown, just large enough to go around the ball joint.

3. Reconnect the battery and reset the radio presets.

FILE UNDER:

Safety Recall Bulletins in the Dealer Service Information Binder

(3072)

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Steps not required:

- Power steering fluid draining
- Air bag module and steering wheel assembly removal
- Clock spring removal
- Accelerator stopper removal
- Removal step 3. Self locking nuts removal (connection for tie rod end)
- Removal step 8. Return tube disconnection
- Removal step 9. O-ring removal
- Removal step 10. Pressure hose disconnection
- Removal step 11. O-ring removal
- Removal step 21. Power steering gear and linkage removal

PARTS INFORMATION

Use the Genuine Mitsubishi Parts listed below.

Description	Model	Part Number
Crossmember Kit, Front Axle	2007 Eclipse/Eclipse Spyder 6G75 V6 3.8L	CMKIT38L
Crossmember Kit, Front Axle	2007 Eclipse/Eclipse Spyder 4G64 L4 2.4L	CMKIT24L

Each kit contains the following parts:

Description	Quantity	Comments
Crossmember, front axle	1	Crossmember, front axle
Nut, front suspension lower arm, flange, self locking, 14	2	Ball joint, lower control arm
Nut, front axle crossmember, flange, self locking	4	Crossmember to body
Nut, front axle crossmember, flange, self locking	2	Body bracket stud
Nut, front suspension lower arm, flange, self locking, 14	2	For bolt, rear side of lower control arm

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Campaign Labor Operation Number: C0605KXX

Allowed Labor Times:

Inspection only: 0.2 hrs

Inspection and authorized replacement if needed: 2.8 hrs

A sample claim with both scenarios has been provided on the following pages.

Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.

The information contained in this bulletin is subject to change. For the latest version of this document, go to the Mitsubishi Dealer Link, MEDIC, or the Mitsubishi Service Information website (www.mitsubishitechinfo.com).

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Header Section 2007 Eclipse / Spyder Crossmember Inspection

MITSUBISHI DEALER LINC		Service Warranty		Help	
		Enter in the first 6 characters of the campaign labor operation			
Campaign Information					
Campaign Operation No	C0605K	This campaign is for certain 2007 Eclipse / Spyder models. There are approximately 1556 vehicles involved in this campaign) in the USA and Canada.			
Miles/km					
VIN	4A.....	Repair Date	In	Out	
Service Technician	Emp. No	Service Advisor	Emp. No		
Spec Value *		Duplicate Recall *			
Dealer: 99320	Ref No:	VIN:			
Claim No:	Adj:	Claim Status:	Incomplete	Model and Year:	
Save & Continue		Main Menu			

Note: In some instances, it may be necessary to arrange towing and/or to provide a temporary rental / loaner vehicle to a customer. Please use the entry fields at the bottom of the campaign claim's labor section.

Special Sublet Selection					
Select	Labor Operation	Labor Operation Description			Amount
<input type="checkbox"/>	SHO	SPECIAL HANDLING ORDER	SHO Part Order		
<input type="checkbox"/>	RENTACAR	RENTAL CAR CHARGES	Days	Reason	
			Rental Company	Invoice Number	
<input type="checkbox"/>	95300-10	FREIGHT CHARGES	Freight Company	Invoice Number	
<input type="checkbox"/>	95200-10	TOWING CHARGES	Towing Company	Invoice Number	

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SCENARIO 1: UPON INSPECTION THE CROSSMEMBER DOES NOT NEED REPLACEMENT

PARTS SECTION: No Parts Are Allowed For Inspection Only Claims

Delete	Part No	Part Description	Qty	Unit Price	Part Amount	Primary
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						
7.						

Buttons: Check Part Prices, Save & Continue, More Parts, Main Menu, Cancel Changes

LABOR SECTION: Crossmember Inspection Labor Time

Note: These entries will automatically be filled in based on the campaign number you entered on the previous screen.

Delete	Sublet	Labor Op	Labor Operation Description	Qty	Hours / Sublet Amt	Total Hrs	Labor Amt
		C0605KXX		1		.2	

Annotations:

- Verify C0605KXX comes up as the full campaign labor operation number
- Qty of 1
- Enter the allowed labor time of .2 hours for an inspection

Total Labor Amount

Buttons: Update, Finish, PWA, Main Menu, Cancel Changes

SCENARIO 2: UPON INSPECTION - THE CROSSMEMBER REQUIRES REPLACEMENT

PARTS SECTION: If authorized, a new crossmember may be claimed

Delete	Sublet	Labor Op	Labor Operation Description	Qty	Unit Price	Part Amount	Primary
			If the vehicle has 2.4L I4 engine: Kit Part# - CMKIT24L	1			
		OR.....				
			If the vehicle has a 3.8L V6 engine: Kit Part # - CMKIT38L				

LABOR SECTION: Crossmember Inspection and Authorized Replacement Labor Time

Delete	Sublet	Labor Op	Labor Operation Description	Qty	Hours / Sublet Amt	Total Hrs	Labor Amt
		C0605KXX		1		2.8	

Total Labor Amount

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AFFECTED VEHICLES
MODELS: 2007 Eclipse/Eclipse Spyder

Date: September, 2006

RE: IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTIFICATION: SR-06-004

Dear Mitsubishi Owner,

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Reason For Notice: Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. has decided that a defect that relates to vehicle safety exists in certain 2007 Eclipse and Eclipse Spyder vehicles. The metal forming part of the front crossmember may have been improperly stamped resulting in the metal becoming thinner in cross-section than specified. This could over time result in breakage of the crossmember. Breakage of the crossmember may allow separation of the passenger side lower control arm, which may result in the loss of steering control.

What you should do: Please contact your Authorized Mitsubishi Dealer to schedule an appointment to have the crossmember inspected. When you bring your vehicle in, show this letter. (If you misplace this letter, they will still make the repair, free of charge.)

What your dealer will do: The dealership will schedule an appointment to have the crossmember inspected by authorized personnel. If the crossmember requires replacement, the dealer will replace it.

How long will it take? The time needed for the inspection is approximately 10 minutes. If the crossmember requires replacement, actual repair time is approximately 3 hours. The dealer may need your vehicle for a longer period of time due to service scheduling issues, but every effort will be made to minimize your inconvenience.

If you have any trouble having your vehicle repaired promptly and at no charge, please inform us by calling the Mitsubishi Customer Relations Department at **888-MITSU-2006 (888-648-7820)**.

Hours: Monday – Friday 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Pacific Time).

If after contacting Mitsubishi Customer Relations, you still have a problem having this repair made promptly and without charge, write to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20590, or call the Auto Safety Hotline toll-free (888) 327-4236 (TTY 800-424-1953), or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

If you have already encountered a problem regarding the above and have paid for the repair, you may send your original receipts and/or other adequate proof of payment to the following address for reimbursement:
Mitsubishi Customer Relations Department, P.O. Box 6400, Cypress, CA 90630-0064

Notice to Lessors: If you are a lessor of five or more leased vehicles as of the date of this letter, you have an obligation under federal law, (49 CFR Part 577), to provide the lessee of the above referenced vehicle with a copy of this letter by first class mail within ten days of receipt. Further, you must maintain a record, which identifies the lessee to whom you sent a copy of this letter, the date you sent it, and the vehicle identification number (VIN) of the subject vehicle.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact your Mitsubishi Dealer.