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OFFICE OF DEFECTS  
INVESTIGATION



October 26, 2006

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

**SALES DIVISION**  
6400 KATELLA AVENUE  
CYPRESS, CALIFORNIA 90630-5208  
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**MAILING ADDRESS:**  
P.O. BOX 6400  
CYPRESS, CALIFORNIA 90630-0064

06V-414  
(10 pages)

RE: 2007 Mitsubishi Eclipse and Eclipse Spyder Gear Shift Key Lock Cable

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 2007 Mitsubishi Eclipse and Eclipse Spyder vehicles distributed in the United States by MMNA. No vehicles destined for sale in Puerto Rico by Mitsubishi Motor Sales of Caribbean (MMSC) are included in this recall. On certain vehicles equipped with automatic transmissions, the cable used to control the ignition key interlock system may be incorrectly manufactured. This may allow the transmission shift lever to be moved out of the park position with the ignition key removed.

**1. Manufacturer's Name**

Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.

**2. Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect**

Make	Line	Model Year(s)	Manufacturing Period
Mitsubishi	Eclipse & Eclipse Spyder	2007	23 August 2006 ~ 11 September 2006

**2. Total Number of Vehicles: 1,772**

\* This recall will also be launched in Canada (72), Mexico (17) and the Philippines (7).

**3. Approximate percentage of vehicles actually containing the defect:**

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



#### **4. Defect Description:**

The key lock cable was improperly manufactured and may not allow the cable end to lock into the floor shifter mechanism. This can result in the interlock system to become inoperative and allow the ignition key to be removed without the gearshift mechanism being placed in the Park position. If the driver does not shift to park before removing the key and fails to engage the parking brake, the vehicle could roll and a crash could occur.

#### **5. Chronological Summary of Events Leading to Determination:**

- On September 11, 2006 associates on the assembly line detected a vehicle that the gearshift lever could be moved out of the park position with the ignition key removed. It was investigated and the interlock cable was found to be 2mm longer than specified.
- Parts awaiting installation were checked and those that were out of specification were isolated.
- The vendor was contacted and suspect parts were returned for analysis. It was determined that during the production shift on August 16, 2006 cable ends were built using the wrong T-end die, resulting in the part being 2mm out of specification.
- MMNA Manufacturing investigated the potential of the condition occurring in the field and determined that approximately 200 suspect cables may have been installed on the subject vehicles, however not all vehicles would be subject to the reported condition.
- MMNA Executive Committee group met and notified MMNA Sales on October 19, 2006 a determination had been made to launch a voluntary recall to inspect the cables on the subject vehicles and replace those cables that were out of specification.

#### **6. Test Results or Data Used to Determine Non-compliance**

N/A

#### **7. 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 ignition interlock cable end. If the cable end is within specifications and the vehicle interlock functions properly, the vehicle will be cleared of the recall. For those vehicles having cables outside of the specifications (cable end too long), a new interlock cable will be installed and the interlock function verified.

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

The owner notification and technical bulletin drafts are attached for your review and approval.

**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:**

Mitsubishi has determined that this incident does not constitute an immediate and substantial threat to motor vehicle safety; therefore the three-day dealer notice does not apply. It is anticipated that the notification to the dealers will be on or about November 13, 2006 and to the owners on or about November 20, 2006 depending on replacement parts availability.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kent Reeves', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Kent Reeves, National Manager  
Product Support & Technical Compliance  
Telephone 714-372-6362  
Fax 714-934-4242  
Email [kreeves@mmsa.com](mailto:kreeves@mmsa.com)

SUBJECT:		No: <b>SR-06-005</b>	
<b>GEAR SHIFT KEY INTERLOCK CABLE — SAFETY RECALL CAMPAIGN</b>		DATE: <b>November, 2006</b>	
		MODEL: <b>See below</b>	
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

## PURPOSE

The gear shift key interlock cable may be improperly manufactured on some affected vehicles. This could allow the automatic transmission gear selector lever to be moved out of the park position with the key removed from the ignition switch. If the park brake is not applied, and the gear shift lever is moved out of park, the vehicle may roll and result in a vehicle crash.

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

## AFFECTED VEHICLES

2007 Eclipse with automatic transmission  
 2007 Eclipse Spyder with automatic transmission

### ***IMPORTANT***

***Affected new or used inventory vehicles must be repaired before the vehicle is sold. Dealers must check their inventory vehicles' VINs on the Warranty Super Screen to verify whether the vehicle is involved in this recall campaign.***

## 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 gear shift key lock cable inspected and replaced if necessary. A copy of the customer notification letter appears later in this bulletin.

## PROCEDURE

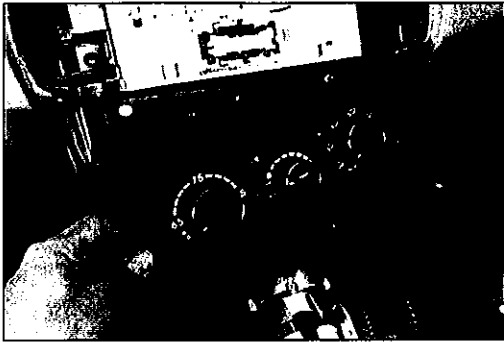
Before starting this campaign procedure, **CHECK ON THE WARRANTY SUPERSCREEN** to verify that the vehicle is an affected VIN for this campaign and that this campaign procedure has not already been completed.



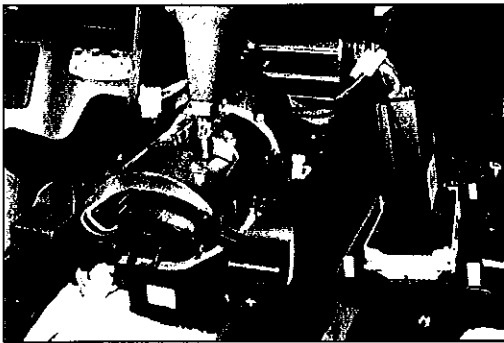
1. Using a trim stick, carefully remove the audio unit faceplate.

Continued

FILE UNDER:	<b>Safety Recall Bulletins in the Dealer Service Information Binder</b>	<b>(3090)</b>
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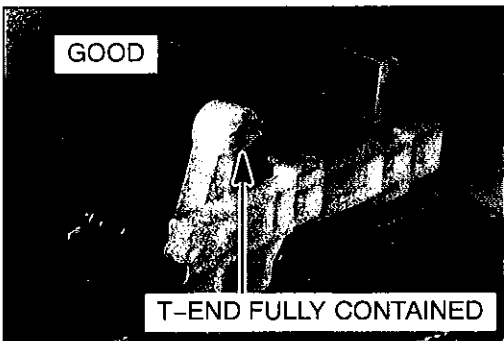


2. Unsnap the HVAC panel and allow it to hang by the harness to the right of the console.
3. Pull up on the parking brake handle.

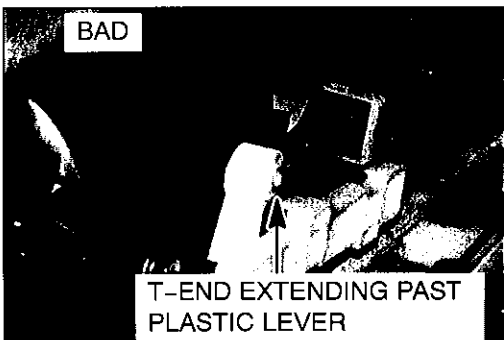


4. Unsnap and remove the console cover.

5. Inspect the T-end of the gear shift key interlock cable as described below.



- a. If the cable end is fully contained within the lever and snap lock, the cable DOES NOT need to be replaced.



- b. If the T-end of the cable is visible (flush or extends past the white plastic lever), the cable must be replaced.

Follow the service manual procedure in Group 23A of the 2007 Eclipse/Eclipse Spyder service manual for replacing the gear shift key interlock cable.

## PARTS INFORMATION

Use the Genuine Mitsubishi Parts listed below.

**NOTE: DO NOT automatically order parts for inventory. Only a small number of affected vehicles will require parts replacement.**

Description	Part Number
Gear Shift Key Interlock Cable	MR567431

## WARRANTY INFORMATION

Enter as a "Recall" claim on the MDL

Campaign Labor Operation Number: C0606KXX

Allowed Labor Times:

Inspection only: 0.2 hrs

Inspection and replacement if needed: 0.8 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](http://www.mitsubishitechinfo.com)).

Header Section 2007 Eclipse and Spyder Gear Shift Key Interlock Cable

<b>MITSUBISHI DEALER LINK</b>		<b>Service Warranty</b> Enter in the first 6 characters of the campaign labor operation		<b>Help</b>	
Vehicle Information				JOB VQR	
<b>Campaign Information</b>					
Campaign Operation No	C0606K	This campaign is for certain 2007 Eclipse and Eclipse Spyder models equipped with an automatic transmission.			
Miles/Km		There are approximately 1,854 vehicles involved in this campaign) in the USA, Puerto Rico and Canada.			
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 Parts Order		
<input type="checkbox"/>	RENTACAR	RENTAL CAR CHARGES	Days	Reason <Select one>	
			Rental Company	Invoice Number	
<input type="checkbox"/>	95300040	FREIGHT CHARGES	Freight Company	Invoice Number	
<input type="checkbox"/>	95200040	TOWING CHARGES	Towing Company	Invoice Number	

**SCENARIO 1: UPON INSPECTION, THE CABLE DOES NOT NEED TO BE REPLACED**

**PARTS SECTION: NO PARTS ARE ALLOWED FOR INSPECTION ONLY CLAIMS**

MITSUBISHI DEALER LINK Service Warranty Warranty Claim Help

Claim Entry Vehicle Information Reports DMS Interface PQR/VQR

Add Page - Parts Information

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

No parts allowed if the inspection does not indicate an incorrect part.

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

**LABOR SECTION: INSPECTION OF THE CABLE ONLY**

MITSUBISHI DEALER LINK Service Warranty Recall Claim Help

Claim Entry Vehicle Information Reports DMS Interface PQR/VQR

Add Page - Labor Information

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
		C0606KXX		1		.2	

Verify C0606KXX comes up as the full campaign labor operation number

Qty of 1

Enter the allowed labor time of .2 hours for the inspection only. No replacement required.

Total Labor Amount

Update Finish PWA Main Menu Cancel Changes



SCENARIO 2: UPON INSPECTION, THE CABLE DOES NEED TO BE REPLACED

PARTS SECTION: INSPECTION AND REPLACEMENT OF THE CABLE

MITSUBISHI DEALER LINK Service Warranty Warranty Claim Help

Claim Entry Vehicle Information e-Reports DMS Interface POR/VOR

Add Page - Parts Information

Vehicle Page Completed; Claim Status is Incomplete.

Delete	Part No	Part Description	Qty	Unit Price	Part Amount	Primary
1.	PART NUMBER: MR567431					
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						
7.						

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

LABOR SECTION: INSPECTION AND REPLACEMENT OF THE CABLE

MITSUBISHI DEALER LINK Service Warranty Recall Claim Help

Claim Entry Vehicle Information e-Reports DMS Interface POR/VOR

Add Page - Labor Information

Note: These entries will be automatically 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
		C0606KXX		1		1.2	

Verify C0606KXX comes up as the full campaign labor operation number

Qty of 1

Enter the allowed labor time of .8 hours for BOTH the inspection and replacement of the cable.

Total Labor Amount

Update Finish PWA Main Menu Cancel Changes



**AFFECTED VEHICLES**  
**MODELS: 2007 Eclipse/Eclipse Spyder**

Date: November 2006

**RE: IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTIFICATION: SR-06-005**

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 determined that a defect that relates to vehicle safety exists in certain 2007 Eclipse and Eclipse Spyder vehicles. The gear shift key interlock cable may be improperly manufactured. This could allow the automatic transmission gear selector lever to move out of the park position with the key removed from the ignition switch. If the parking brake is not applied, and the gear shift lever is moved out of park, the vehicle may roll and result in a vehicle crash.

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

**What your dealer will do:** The dealership will inspect the gear shift key interlock cable and replace it if necessary.

**How long will it take?** The time required for an inspection is approximately 10 minutes. If the gear shift key interlock cable requires replacement, actual repair time is approximately 1 hour. The dealership 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 **888-648-7820**.

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.

Sincerely,

Mitsubishi Motor Sales of North America, Inc.

C0606KXX