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(6 pages)

OFFICE OF DEFECTS
INVESTIGATION Mazda North American Operations



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

November 30, 2006

Dear Mr. Smith:

Re.: Submission of Part 573 report for 2006 Model Year Mazda5 vehicles

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports," Mazda North American Operations (MNAO), on behalf of Mazda Motor Corporation of Hiroshima, Japan (Mazda), submits the following information concerning a safety-related recall action that it is initiating.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(1):

Mazda Motor Corporation with Designated Agent:

David G. Robertson, Group Manager
Environmental, Safety, and Powertrain Engineering
Mazda North American Operations
1500 Enterprise Drive, Allen Park
Michigan 48101-2053

Sec. 573.6 (c)(2):

Certain Mazda5 vehicles manufactured with manual slide door built from Job#1 through February 1, 2006, with the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) range between JM1CR29**60 100023 and JM1CR29**60 120693, at Hiroshima Plant are potentially affected.

Affected areas: Alaska, Connecticut, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming,

Sec. 573.6 (c)(3):

Approximately 9,800 vehicles are affected.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(4):

Unknown

Sec. 573.6 (c)(5):

On certain 2006 model year Mazda5 vehicles, water can potentially accumulate within the manual door latch mechanism. When water freezes in low ambient temperatures, the ice will crack when the door is opened. When the vehicle operator tries to close the door under these conditions, ice can interfere with the door latch operation. Consequently, the door may not fully close.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(6):

Mazda first became aware of this matter in November of 2005 when we received some reports from the Canadian market stating that the sliding door would not close. One month later we received similar reports from the US market. During the course of our investigation we discovered that in vehicles with the manual sliding door, water can accumulate within door latch mechanism. We also learned during the course of our investigation that ice will not accumulate to the point where it can affect the latching mechanism unless the temperature drops well below freezing for an extended period. Further, we also were able to demonstrate that the door will not open while the vehicle is in motion once the door is latched.

When this door fails to latch because of the ice buildup, the vehicle operator can see that the door is not fully closed. In addition, the door ajar warning will activate, also notifying the driver of this condition. Because of the fact that the open door is visible to the driver and the door ajar warning will activate, we initially were planning to address this matter through a special service program (SSP). But because it is still possible to operate the vehicle even if the sliding door fails to properly latch, as we thought more about the potential safety consequences of this defect, we decided to conduct a recall in cold weather states.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(7):

Not applicable.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(8):

Owners of record will be notified of the defect by first class mail during December 2006 and will be instructed to return their vehicle to a Mazda dealer for repairs. Repairs will involve replacement of the door latch module, and be performed at no cost to the vehicle owner.

A copy of the reimbursement plan to be sent to owners and dealers as an attachment to the owner notification letter is enclosed. With respect to reimbursement, customers will be reimbursed based on the submission of a receipt indicating the amount paid by the customer to remedy for this defect.

Dealers will be notified of the defect in the middle December 2006.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(9)

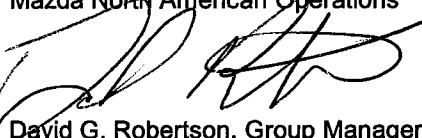
Not Applicable.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(10) & (11):

A copy of the notification letter to be sent to owners is enclosed. Notification letter for dealer will be sent when it become available.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(12):

Mazda has assigned recall number 4306K to this action.

Sincerely yours,
Mazda North American Operations

David G. Robertson, Group Manager
Environmental, Safety and Powertrain Engineering



December 2006

**2006 Mazda5 Sliding Door Latch
Recall 4306K**

Dear Mazda Owner:

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

Mazda Motor Corporation has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2006 Mazda5 vehicles produced from April 12, 2005 through February 1, 2006. **If you are a recipient of this notice, your vehicle is included in this campaign.**

What is the problem?

On certain Mazda5 vehicles, water may accumulate inside the door latch unit when the vehicle is exposed to a large amount of water (e.g. carwash, rainwater or melting snow). If the accumulated water is frozen under low ambient temperature, the ice will crack when the door is opened. When the door is closed under these conditions, ice can interfere with the door latch operation, causing the sliding door not to latch closed. Should the sliding door fail to close, the situation should be visible to you. Further, if the door does not properly close, the "door ajar" warning indicator will activate. If the door is not properly closed, you should not drive the vehicle. Driving the vehicle with the sliding door unlatched could lead to an unbelted occupant being ejected and could result in death or injury.

What will Mazda do?

Mazda will replace the sliding door latches with modified ones, **free of charge**. The repair should take approximately an hour and a half to complete. However, it may take longer depending on the service workload at your Mazda dealership.

As a reminder, the Mazda Driver's Assurance Plan may provide alternate transportation when your vehicle is at an authorized Mazda dealership for a warranty repair. To be eligible for alternate transportation, your vehicle must be a 2001 or newer model and within the mileage and time limitations under the Mazda New Vehicle Limited Warranty and adhere to the Rental Car Reimbursement policy. Ask your dealer for details about the Mazda Rental Car Reimbursement Program.

What should you do?

Mazda is concerned about your safety, and we encourage you to make an appointment with any authorized Mazda dealer to have the sliding door latches replaced. You do not need to bring this notice to the dealer, but it may assist in the check-in process.

What if you have already paid for repair on the sliding door latches?

If you have already paid for the inspection, repair or replacement of the sliding door latches due to a defect, you may be eligible for reimbursement of reasonable repair expenses based on Mazda's repair standards. Please complete the enclosed "Reimbursement Application Form," including the necessary documentation, and mail it to us in the pre-addressed envelope provided, allowing 6-8 weeks for processing.

Where is the closest Mazda dealer?

To locate your nearest Mazda dealer, visit our web site and try our "Locate a Dealer" feature at www.MazdaUSA.com or consult your local yellow pages.

Moved or no longer own this vehicle?

If you have moved or no longer own your Mazda5, please complete the enclosed prepaid *Information Change Card* as soon as possible. This enables us to update our records and notify the current owner.

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

Still have questions?

If you have any questions regarding this campaign, please contact our Customer Assistance Center at (800) 222-5500, option #4.

If Mazda or its dealers do not repair the defect free of charge and within a reasonable amount of time, you may notify the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

Your safety is a priority for Mazda. We actively work to improve our products and search for solutions to improve your ownership experience. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this program may have caused you.

Sincerely,

Mazda North American Operations

REIMBURSEMENT PLAN

Requirements for Reimbursement

If you meet **all** of the following requirements, you are eligible to receive reimbursement under this plan:

1. An authorized Mazda dealer has inspected your vehicle and completed the 2006 Mazda5 Sliding Door Latch Recall 4306K.
2. You own or have owned a subject 2006 Mazda5 within the VIN range:

Model	VIN Range	Build Date Range
2006 Mazda5	JM1 CR29** 60 100023 – 120693	April 12, 2005 through February 1, 2006

Note: The asterisk "**" can be any number or letter.

3. You have paid for the inspection/repair or replacement of sliding door latch(es).
4. You have an original or legible copy of the paid repair order or invoice receipt showing:
 - Description of the concern reported
 - Inspection/repair or replacement of sliding door latch(es)
 - Itemized part(s) and labor charges
 - Vehicle model and year, and vehicle identification number
 - Repair date
 - Repair mileage
 - Name, address, and telephone number of the authorized Mazda Dealer or a licensed repair shop where such repairs were performed
 - Your name and address at the time of repair
5. Mail this reimbursement application form in the enclosed envelope to:

**Mazda North American Operations
PO Box 5049
Lake Forest, CA 92609-8549**

Procedure for Reimbursement Request

Once your vehicle has been inspected, repaired or the sliding door latch(es) replaced by an authorized Mazda dealer due to a defect, you may apply for reimbursement by doing the following:

1. Complete the Reimbursement Application Form found on the reverse side of this page.
2. Mail the Reimbursement Application Form with a legible copy of the paid repair order and/or invoice using the enclosed envelope.
3. **Retain copies** of the paid repair order or invoice and this application form for your records.

If you wish to correspond with Mazda regarding this reimbursement plan, please write to the above address and refer to your vehicle identification number (VIN).

Any reimbursement application form that is incomplete, illegible, or sent without the legible copy of the paid repair order or invoice will be returned for completion. If Mazda has any questions concerning your application for reimbursement, you may be contacted. Please allow 6-8 weeks for processing.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR APPLICATION FORM)

