



Harley-Davidson Motor Company, 3700 West Juneau Ave., PO Box 6531, Milwaukee, WI 53201 414/342-4600

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OFFICE OF DEFECTS  
INVESTIGATION

06V-476  
(4 pages)

December 14, 2006

Ms. Kathleen C. DeMeter  
Director of Office of Defects Investigation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
US Department of Transportation, Room 5326  
400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

The following information is submitted in accordance with National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's reporting regulations, 49CFR Part 573.6.

Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc. has determined that a defect affecting motor vehicle safety exists on certain 2007 Sportster model motorcycles.

**IDENTIFICATION OF EQUIPMENT POTENTIALLY CONTAINING THE DEFECT:**

The recall population includes 18,758 (MY 2007) Sportster model motorcycles built from May 24, 2006 through November 14, 2006. The following 2007 Sportster models are included: XL883, XL883C, XL883L, XL883R, XL1200C, XL1200R, XL1200L, and XL50.

**DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT:**

These vehicles were built with voltage regulator part number 74546-07 which, as a result of a greater body thickness than used in previous model years, may contact the front fender under certain conditions. In some cases this contact may allow the front fender to catch on the top side of the regulator body, which could impede the operator's ability to steer the vehicle. This could result in an accident, which could cause injury or death to the rider.

**CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS:**

On 8/28/06 the Company received a dealer field report of a vehicle exhibiting this condition. The Company began investigating and subsequently determined that a safety issue existed. On 12/13/06 the Company decided to declare a recall.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM TO REMEDY THE DEFECT:**

The remedy of this defect is to install an intermediate mounting bracket that will relocate the voltage regulator in a position which provides more clearance from the front fender.

**SUPPLIER INFORMATION:**

Tympanium Corporation  
197 Commercial Street  
Malden, MA 02148  
(781) 324-8752  
Contact: James L. Liberty, President

**HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTOR COMPANY PRE-NOTIFICATION REMEDY REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM:**

Harley-Davidson Motor Company incorporates by reference herein the general reimbursement plan it has previously provided to NHTSA for reimbursing customers for remedy costs incurred prior to notification of this recall.

**DEALER NOTIFICATION:**

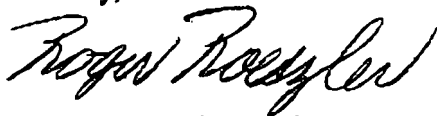
Harley-Davidson expects to notify its dealer network not later than the week of December 18, 2006.

**PART 577 NOTICE LETTER:**

A draft of the owner notification letter is attached.

Please advise the undersigned of the campaign number assigned by ODI to this recall.

Sincerely,



Roger Roeszler for Ron Mundt  
Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc.  
0128

Dear Harley-Davidson Motorcycle Owner:

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

Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc. has decided that a defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists on certain 2007 XL model motorcycles built from May 24, 2006 through November 14, 2006, including the following models: XL883, XL883C, XL883L, XL883R, XL1200C, XL1200R, XL1200L, and XL50. These vehicles were built with voltage regulator part number 74546-07 which, as a result of a greater body thickness than used in previous model years, may contact the front fender under certain conditions. In some cases this contact may allow the front fender to catch on the top side of the regulator body, which could impede the operator's ability to steer the vehicle. This could result in an accident, which could cause injury or death to the rider.

Our records indicate that you purchased one of the model motorcycles listed above that may have the condition involved in this recall.

**We strongly urge you to contact your dealer to make arrangements to have the appropriate service performed as soon as possible. If you have had this defect repaired before you received this letter, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of the problem associated with this recall. For more information contact Harley-Davidson at 1-414-343-4056. Should you choose to ride your motorcycle prior to this service, we urge you to be aware of this condition.**

Please contact your Harley-Davidson motorcycle dealer immediately and arrange an appointment to have a mounting bracket installed that will relocate the voltage regulator in a position which will provide more clearance from the front fender. The actual dealer labor time to perform this service will be less than one hour; however, due to scheduling, the dealer may require your motorcycle for a longer period of time. The parts and labor will be free of charge to you. Recall kits will be available at your dealership beginning the week January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

To verify that the service has been completed, your Dealer will ask you to sign a recall claim. If you have sold your motorcycle, please forward the appropriate information about your purchaser. This will enable us to contact him/her and advise that person of this recall. Also, Federal

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

If you take your motorcycle to your dealer on a mutually agreed upon date and they do not perform the required service to your satisfaction, please contact Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc. for immediate assistance at the address or telephone number listed on this letterhead. If your dealer or Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc. fails or is unable to remedy your motorcycle without charge within a reasonable time, you may wish to inform the Administrator, The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 25090, or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-DASH-2DOT (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or contact NHTSA at <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We regret any inconvenience this may cause you, but we are initiating this action in the interest of your personal safety and satisfaction with our products. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc.  
0128