



07V-173
(4 pages)

April 20, 2007

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 decided that a defect affecting motor vehicle safety exists on certain 2007 Softail model motorcycles.

IDENTIFICATION OF EQUIPMENT POTENTIALLY CONTAINING THE DEFECT:

The recall population includes 52,240 (MY 2007) Softail model motorcycles built from June 8, 2006 through March 14, 2007. The following 2007 Softail models are included: FXST, FXSTB, FXSTC, FXSTD, FXSTSSE, FLSTC, FLSTF, FLSTN, FLSTSC, FLSTC Shrine, and FLSTF Shrine.

DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT:

The models built between the above dates were built with a condition that permits the positive battery cable to contact a weld bead on the oil tank. This may cause the weld bead to abrade through the insulation on the cable and cause an electrical short from the battery through the oil tank and oil lines. This could lead to an oil leak and/or possible fire, which could result in injury or death to the rider.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS:

In October of 2006 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 4/13/07 the Company decided to declare a recall.

To our knowledge there have been no accidents or injuries related to this issue.

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DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM TO REMEDY THE DEFECT:

The remedy of this defect is to install a battery caddy which includes a cable routing channel and protective shield which prevents the possibility of contact between the positive battery cable and the oil tank weld bead.

SUPPLIER INFORMATION:

Kalas Manufacturing Inc.
P.O. Box 328
25 Main Street
Denver, Pennsylvania 17517 US
Jack Witwer, Executive contact
Phone 717-335-0168

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 AND OWNER NOTIFICATION:

Harley-Davidson expects to notify its dealer network not later than the week of April 23, 2007 and the owner network on or about the week of April 30, 2007.

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,



Ron Mundt
Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc.
0130

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 may exist on certain 2007 Softail model (FXST, FXSTB, FXSTC, FXSTD, FXSTSSE, FLSTC, FLSTF, FLSTN, FLSTSC, FLSTC Shrine, and FLSTF Shrine) vehicles built from June 8, 2006 through March 14, 2007. These motorcycles were built with a condition that permits the positive battery cable to contact a weld bead on the oil tank. This may cause the weld bead to abrade through the insulation on the cable and cause an electrical short from the battery through the oil tank and oil lines. This could lead to an oil leak and/or possible fire, which could result in 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.

Please contact your Harley-Davidson motorcycle dealer immediately and arrange an appointment to have a battery caddy installed that will protect the cable and ensure proper cable routing. 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 of May, 7, 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 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.

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.
0130