

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report¹

On April 25, 2007, Hino Motors Sales U.S.A., Inc. decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety) (a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. _____) exist in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: April 25, 2007

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): TBD

1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Hino Motors Sales U.S.A., Inc.

2555 Telegraph Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

¹Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. Jon White at (202) 366-5227 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.

George M. Daniels

Senior National Manager, Service Operations

Telephone Number: 248-648-6430 **Fax No.:** 248-615-0105

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Eric Lannon

Warranty Manager

Signed:

I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall

2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:

Make(s): Hino **Model Years Involved:** 2005, 2006 and 2007 **Model(s):** ND8J, NE8J, NJ8J, NV8J

Production Dates: Beginning: Start of Production **Ending:** 4/2/2007

VIN Range: Beginning: JHBNV8JTX51S10466 **Ending:** 5PVND8JJ772S10013

Vehicle Type: Auto Tensioner and Mounting Bolts **Bodystyle:** N/A

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Due to the original design and materials used for the auto tensioner abnormal wear, corrosion and/or rust may develop on the tensioner spindle and/or bushing. This causes the auto tensioner to become stiff or bind which will lead to the drive belt suddenly coming off.

Make(s): _____ **Model Years Involved:** _____ **Model(s):** _____

Production Dates: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

VIN Range: Beginning: _____ **Ending:** _____

Vehicle Type: _____ **Bodystyle:** _____

Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:

Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period.

II. Identify the Recall Population

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

Model	Year	Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved
ND8J	2005	175
NE8J	2005	2021
NJ8J	2005	435
NV8J	2005	546
ND8J	2006	414
NE8J	2006	1760
NJ8J	2006	1450
NV8J	2006	803
ND8J	2007	855
NE8J	2007	2709
NJ8J	2007	2097
NV8J	2007	1323
Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall:		14,588

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: Unknown

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

Initial finding were determined by the quantity of tensioners containing abnormal wear, corrosion and/or rust. Further investigation yielded that many vehicles had one or more replaced tensioner with above listed conditions. Affected units dates include from the start of production until the end of 2007 production which occurred on March 2, 2007.

III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance

5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.

Due to the original design and materials used for the auto tensioner abnormal wear, corrosion and/or rust may develop on the tensioner spindle and/or bushing. This causes the auto tensioner to become stiff and/or bind which will lead to the drive belt suddenly coming off and/or the mounting bolts breaking.

Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

The abnormal wear, corrosion and/or rust is due to the original design and materials used.

Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.

If the auto tensioner has abnormal wear, corrosion and/ or rust it may cause the spindle and/or bushing to become stiff and bind. This may result in the drive belt suddenly coming off and/or the auto tensioner mounting bolts could suddenly break. If the drive belt comes off the alternator warning lamp will illuminate. If the warning is ignored, this condition could ultimately result in a loss of power (engine stall) which potentially could result in a crash.

Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.

The auto tensioner will have abnormal wear, corrosion and/or rust on the tensioner spindle and/or bushing.

If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.

Bando Chemical Industries, Limited, 2-2-21 Isogamidoon, Chuo-ku, Kobe 651-0086 Japan

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:

IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance

If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.

The chronology of principle events will be supplied at a later date.

V. Identify the Remedy

- 6. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.**

See attached Recall Bulletin for remedy procedures.

Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.

Recalled component: No Difference

Remedy component: Change in configuration of the front plate and tensioner arm to prevent water intrusion.
 Changed the clearance between the spindle and bushing plus change the surface roughness specification of the spindle to prevent abrasion of the bushing.
 Changed the hardening process and the material specification of the spindle.
 Changed the hardness specification of the mounting bolts.
 Changed the material specification of the spindle bushing.

Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.

June 1st, 2007 will begin notification of Hino Dealers and customers will be notified beginning on June 15th.

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

9. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. A *DRAFT* copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.

Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.