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Mazda North American Operations

DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.



07V-295
(5 PAGES)

July 2, 2007

Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Room W46-425
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

Re.: Submission of Part 573 report for 2007 Model Year MAZDASPEED3 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):

Vehicles potentially affected are certain 2007 model year MAZDASPEED3 with the VIN range from JM1BK34** 71 603266 to 768653 and were built at the Hofu Plant in Japan from June 28, 2006 through May 19, 2007.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(3):

Approximately 5,700 vehicles are affected.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(4):

Unknown

Sec. 573.6 (c)(5):

On certain MAZDASPEED3 vehicles, the No. 4 engine mount (left side engine mount) bolt may loosen if a sudden/rapid acceleration is repeatedly performed. If the vehicle is continuously driven under such condition, the No. 4 engine mount bolt may loosen and pull out or break, allowing the transmission to be out of position. In extreme cases, the driveshaft may become detached. If this occurs the vehicle will lose power and will come to a stop.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(6):

In March 2007, NHTSA opened an investigation of engine mount breaking or becoming unbolted involving 2007 model year MAZDASPEED3 vehicles. During the course of the investigation, Mazda identified 31 individual incidents that resulted in a loosened bolt or unbolted engine mount causing the transmission being out of position. There are no allegations of accidents or injuries.

On May 24, 2007, Mazda met with representatives from NHTSA ODI and explained the root cause of the engine mount failure and that there was no indication of safety risk when this failure occurs. Mazda also informed NHTSA that we were planning to conduct a Special Service Program to address this issue for our customers. The NHTSA staff expressed their belief that the problem is a safety related defect and that a safety recall is necessary.

Mazda continues to believe that there is no unreasonable risk of accident or injury associated with the condition on MAZDASPEED3 vehicles. Most of the reported incidents were identified by operators and repaired under warranty before there was any effect on vehicle operation. In fewer than half of those instances did the bolt fall out or break resulting in any effect on vehicle operation. In each instance the operator was able to safely control the vehicle. Steering, braking and vehicle momentum remain unaffected by the condition. The lack of accidents supports Mazda's conclusion that the condition does not present an unreasonable risk of accident or injury. The agency has not described its basis for concluding that the condition presents an unreasonable risk of accident or injury. Nonetheless, to avoid a protracted discussion with the agency, Mazda will initiate a safety recall.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(7):

Not applicable.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(8):

Owners of record will be notified of the issue and instructed to take their vehicles to a Mazda dealer to have the No.4 engine mount bolt replaced. Also the No.4 engine mount rubber and bracket will be inspected and replaced, if necessary. These repairs will 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 this report. With respect to reimbursement, customers will be reimbursed based on the submission of a receipt indicating the amount paid by the customer to remedy this problem.

Dealers will be notified of the voluntary recall during the week of July 9, 2007.

Mailing of owner notification letters by first class mail will begin on July 13, 2007 and be completed on July 13, 2007.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(9)

Not Applicable.


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

Copies of the notification letters to be sent to owners and dealers are enclosed with this report.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(12):

Mazda has assigned recall number 4607F to this action.

Sincerely yours,
Mazda North American Operations



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



July 2007

2007 MAZDASPEED3 Engine Mount Safety Recall 4607F

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 on certain 2007 MAZDASPEED3 vehicles produced from June 28, 2006 through May 19, 2007. **If you are a recipient of this notice, your vehicle is included in this campaign.**

What is the problem?

On certain MAZDASPEED3 vehicles, the No. 4 engine mount bolt may loosen if a sudden/rapid acceleration is repeatedly performed. If the vehicle is continuously driven under such condition, the No. 4 engine mount bolt may loosen and fall out or break, allowing the transmission to be out of position. In extreme cases, the driveshaft may become detached. If this occurs the vehicle will immediately lose power, come to a stop and be inoperable. Should this occur, there is an increased risk of an accident.

What will Mazda do?

Your Mazda dealer will inspect and replace the No. 4 engine mount bolt with a modified one, and if necessary, replace the No. 4 engine mount rubber and bracket with new ones **free of charge**.

The repair should take approximately one hour to complete. However, it may take longer depending on the service workload at your Mazda dealership.

Please note that you are not required to bring your vehicle to a MAZDASPEED certified dealer for this recall. Non-MAZDASPEED dealers are authorized to perform this repair. Due to parts availability, the repair time may be longer at a non-MAZDASPEED certified dealer. You are encouraged to contact the dealer ahead of time to schedule an appointment.

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.

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 No. 4 engine mount bolt replaced, and if necessary to have the No. 4 engine mount rubber and bracket 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 No. 4 engine mount?

If you paid for the inspection, repair, or replacement of the No. 4 engine mount bolt, rubber or bracket due to a defect prior to receiving this notice 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.

Moved or no longer own this vehicle?

If you have moved or no longer own your MAZDASPEED3, 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, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE., 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 recall may have caused you.

Sincerely,

Mazda North American Operations