

NISSAN

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.

NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.

Corporate Headquarters
333 Commerce Street
Nashville, TN 37201-1800

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 685001
Franklin, TN 37068-5001

Telephone: 615.725.3111

September 12, 2007

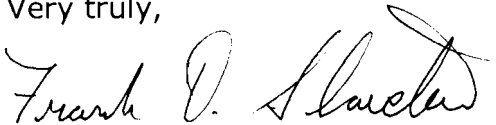
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
400 Seventh Street, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

**07V-435
(4 Pages)**

Dear Sir:

We are transmitting the enclosed Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573. A voluntary recall campaign will be initiated and your office provided with the notices. Nissan plans to notify dealers on October 3, 2007 and begin notifying owners on November 26, 2007. Owner notification will be completed by May 2008.

Very truly,



Frank D. Slaveter
Senior Manager,
Technical Compliance

Encl.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan Motor Co., Ltd.

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

1997-2001 model year Nissan Pathfinder vehicles manufactured from May 24, 1997 to July 26, 2001 and 1997-2001 model year Infiniti QX4 vehicles manufactured from May 24, 1997 to July 24, 2001. Vehicles manufactured before these dates are not affected as a different coating process was used for the fuel filler tube. Vehicles manufactured after these dates are not affected because they use a different fuel filler tube. No other Nissan or Infiniti models use the same fuel filler tube as the subject vehicles.

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 372,250.

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect:

Unknown

5. Description of the Defect:

During the coating process of the fuel filler tube assembly, a sufficient coating may not have been applied at the lower mounting bracket. This could result in an opening in the coating which can allow water to enter and make contact with the bare metal of the tube. This may result in surface rust but not perforation of the tube. However, in those areas of the country which use heavy concentrations of road salt in the winter, if a mixture of snow/water and salt makes contact with the bare metal, corrosion may occur to a degree which results in perforation of the tube. In this case, fuel leakage may occur when filling the tank or shortly thereafter.

The name and address of the manufacturer of the subject fuel filler tube is:

UNIPRES Corporation

Sun Hamada Bldg. 5F
1-19-20, Shin-Yokohama, Kohoku-ku, Yokohama-City, Kanagawa-Pref, 222-
8581 Japan

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

September – October 2006 – Nissan noted an unusual increase in parts demand by dealers for fuel filler tubes for the subject vehicles. Nissan had not previously experienced any increase in warranty claims for this part. These parts were being ordered for vehicles which were out of warranty. In order to determine the reason for the increase in parts demand, Nissan arranged with a few dealers to obtain fuel filler tubes which had been replaced. Subsequent inspection of these fuel filler tubes indicated that they had experienced significant corrosion. Nissan decided to undertake a more detailed investigation.

October 2006 – August 2007 – Nissan conducted an extensive parts collection program and analysis to determine the cause of the corrosion, the risk to motor vehicle safety and the scope of the potentially affected vehicle population. This was complicated due to the age of the vehicles, because parts collection involved customer paid repairs and not repairs covered under warranty, which normally facilitates parts collection efforts. In addition, during the lifecycle of the affected model, there has been a running change to the powder coating process for the fuel filler tube, and a later significant change in the actual design of the tube. The investigation had to take into account these changes and component differences during the extensive analysis.

September 5, 2007 – Nissan determined that a safety related defect exists and that a voluntary recall campaign should be conducted.

7. Description of Corrective Action:

All owners of potentially affected vehicles will be notified. Owners of vehicles in those states where heavy use of road salt can occur in the winter will be requested to take their vehicle to a Nissan or Infiniti dealer. These states include Connecticut, Delaware, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington D.C., West Virginia and Wisconsin. The dealer will replace the fuel filler tube assembly with a new one with an improved coating process. Nissan plans to begin notifying owners of potentially affected vehicles on November 26, 2007 and to

complete notifying owners by May 2008. Dealers will be notified on October 3, 2008.

Owners in the other states will be notified about this defect and advised they do not need to take their vehicle to a dealer unless their vehicle was operated in one of the above states for an extended period of time during the winter or if they notice fuel leakage when filling the tank. For those customers wishing to have their vehicles inspected, the fuel filler tube will be inspected and replaced if corrosion is found that might result in perforation of the tube.

8. Copy of Notices:

Copies of all notices will be provided to NHTSA as they become available.