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January 30, 2008

Mr. Daniel C. Smith  
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE/W45-231  
Washington, DC 20590

**08V-055**  
**(3 pages)**

Dear Mr. Smith:

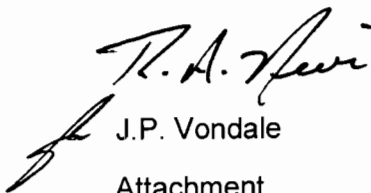
Subject: Land Rover LR2 Sunroof Detachment

Summary

- Action – Land Rover, which is an affiliate of Ford Motor Company (Ford), is conducting a voluntary safety recall involving certain 2007 and 2008 Model Year Land Rover LR2 vehicles built at the Halewood (UK) assembly plant from November 01, 2006, through January 12, 2008, to have an additional retention insert installed to the sunroof guide mechanism to ensure that in the event of component failure the sunroof cannot detach from the sunroof guide mechanism.
- Number of Vehicles Involved – Approximately 12,353 vehicles in the United States and Federalized Territories.
- Affect on Vehicle Operation – Failure of either the left- or right-side guide rail could cause the sunroof to become detached from its operating mechanism and bind. The operator may hear a cracking noise if this condition occurs. If this condition occurs, the sunroof glass panel will remain attached to its frame, but further attempts to operate will result in continued noise and abnormal operation due to the binding condition. If a vertical force is applied (for example customer manually aiding the sunroof to close or wind lift) the glass panel can become fully detached from the vehicle.
- Service Program – Dealers will be instructed to install the retention inserts to both sides of the glass panel guide rails on all affected vehicles.

Attached is the detailed information required by the applicable portions of 49 CFR Part 573 - Defect and Non-Compliance Information Report.

Sincerely,

  
J.P. Vondale  
Attachment



49 CFR Part 573 – NON-COMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT  
2007–2008 MODEL YEAR LAND ROVER LR2 SUNROOF VEHICLES

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Non-compliance Reports, Ford submits the following information concerning a safety recall action that it is initiating voluntarily.

573.6 (c) (2) - Potentially Affected Vehicles

All Land Rover LR2 vehicles manufactured with a sunroof built at the Halewood (UK) assembly plant from November 01, 2006, through January 12, 2008, are affected.

573.6 (c) (3) - Estimated Population of Vehicles Potentially Affected

Approximately 12,353 vehicles in the United States and Federalized Territories.

573.6 (c) (4) - Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Condition

Unknown.

573.6 (c) (5) - Description of the Defect

Land Rover LR2 vehicles manufactured with a sunroof may experience failure of either the left- or right-hand side sunroof guide rail when the sunroof is operated. Due to different thermal expansion properties between the plastic over-mold material (POM - polyoxymethylene) and steel sunroof guide rail, excessive stress can develop in the over-molded bracket which may lead to cracking during normal sunroof operation. If cracks occur and propagate in a certain area of the guide rail, fragments of the plastic over-mold material may detach from the guide rail and obstruct the operation of the sunroof. The obstruction could cause the sunroof, when operated, to bind, twist, and potentially detach from the operating mechanism. If the sunroof is subsequently cycled and a vertical force applied (for example, customer manually aiding roof to close or wind lift) the glass panel can become fully detached from the vehicle.

The Sunroof assembly is manufactured by:

Inalfa Roof Systems  
Smakterweg 70  
P.O.box 515  
5800 AM Venray  
The Netherlands

573.6 (c) (6) - Chronology of Events

On January 09, 2008, Land Rover's manufacturing plant at Halewood issued a Stop Shipment - Freeze Shipment notification for functional concerns with the sunroof on Land Rover LR2 vehicles.

A Quarantine Notice was issued on January 10, 2008, to US ports of entry.

On January 15, 2008, the concern was reviewed with the Land Rover Critical Concerns Review Group (CCRG). Thirty-two customer complaints were identified that indicated that the front sunroof glass panel had bound and become detached from the sunroof frame on one side of the vehicle. One sunroof glass panel had reportedly become completely detached from the vehicle.

The concern was again reviewed at the CCRG on January 22, 2008, and it was recommended that the concern be forwarded to the Technical Review Group (TRG).

The issue was reviewed at Land Rover's TRG on January 23, 2008, and the TRG forwarded the issue to the Field Review Committee (FRC).

At the Land Rover FRC on January 23, 2008, Land Rover decided to voluntarily recall the vehicles to install the retention service kit to all sunroof equipped vehicles.

Land Rover is not aware of any customer reports of accidents or injuries attributed to this condition.

573.6 (c) (8) -Service Program

Dealers will be instructed to install the retention inserts to both sides of the glass panel guide rails on all affected vehicles. There will be no charge to owners for this service. Mailing of owner notification letters will occur on February 29, 2008. Dealer communications will begin during the week of February 4, 2008.

573.6 (c) (10) - Press statement and Dealer/Owner Letters

Land Rover does not at this time plan to make a statement to the media concerning the subject matter of this action. A copy of the notification letters to dealers and owners from Land Rover will be forwarded to the agency when available.

573.6 (c) (11) - Recall Number

Land Rover has assigned recall number P009 to this action.

573.13 (c) (2) - Ending date for reimbursement Eligibility

Land Rover is excluding reimbursement for costs incurred by owners for repair of this concern because Land Rover's original warranty program would provide for a free repair for this concern for customers.