



February 21, 2008

08V-094
(3 Pages)

Ms. Kathleen DeMeter, Esq.
Director, Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
West Building
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Defect Information Report

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

In accordance with the provisions of 49 CFR Part 573.5 Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Mitsubishi Motor North America, Inc. (MMNA) hereby furnishes this Defect Information Report, which contains details of a potential defect in certain 2007 & 2008 model year Outlander vehicles distributed by Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. Sales Division. This recall is also being launched in Canada however it does not apply to Mitsubishi Motor Sales of the Caribbean (MMSC) as the weather conditions that create the safety issue do not occur in that climate.

1. Manufacturer's Name

Mitsubishi Motors Corporation

2. Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect

Vehicles of the following model years, manufacturing period and owner registered or currently residing in the affected regions listed below.

Make	Line	Model Year(s)	Manufacturing Period
Mitsubishi	Outlander	2007-2008	08 Sept 2006 ~ 28 Jan 2008

Affected Salt Belt Regions: Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Washington D.C.

3. Total Number of Vehicles

Vehicle Line	Number of Vehicles
Outlander	Approximately 5,400 vehicles

4. Approximate Percentage of Vehicles Actually Containing the defect:

It is impossible to tell the percentage of vehicles that may experience melting of the connector due to the variations in snow accumulation, the amount of road salt used and the incidence of vehicle operators entering the vehicle with snow and road salt on their feet, however all suspect vehicle owners in the salt belt states will be contacted and requested to bring their vehicles to their local Mitsubishi Motors Dealer for repair.

5. Defect Description

For vehicles without an electric power seat, the floor harness connector for the power seat is placed directly on the floorboard underneath the carpeting (vehicles with power seats already have the harness elevated). If a vehicle occupant enters the vehicle with a sufficient amount of snow on their feet containing road salt, it is possible for the melted snow mixture to soak the carpet and allow the salt-water solution to come into contact with the unused power seat harness connector. As a result the connector terminal may corrode and allow current to flow, resulting in the gradual heating and melting of the connector. In the worst-case scenario, it may result in a fire.

6. Chronological Summary of Events Leading to Determination

Mitsubishi received three customer complaints from the Canadian market alleging the unused floor harness for the driver's side power seat melted and smoked during driving or idling. Testing in Canada was conducted during January and February 2008 and it was found that a mixture of snow and road salt used to clear the road surfaces during ice and snowstorms was being introduced into the vehicle floorboard from the feet of the vehicle occupants in sufficient quantities to expose the harness to the melt solution. Based on this testing, Mitsubishi determined that a safety-related defect exists and decided to conduct a safety recall in Canada and the salt belt portions of the United States.

7. Test Results or Data Used to Determine Non-compliance

N/A

8. Proposed Remedy Description

All owners of affected vehicles will be notified by first class mail and instructed to bring their vehicles to their local Mitsubishi Motors dealer to have the floor harness beneath both the passenger and driver seats relocated above the carpet and away from the bottom of the floorboard to prevent contact with any future melt solution.

9. Notice(s) and Bulletin(s)

The owner notification and technical bulletin drafts will be provided when they become available.

10. Reimbursements

Owners seeking reimbursement for any expenses relating to this recall will be directed in the notification letter to contact Mitsubishi Customer Connections for instructions on how to apply for a refund.

11. Dealer Notification

Mitsubishi has determined that this incident does not constitute an immediate and substantial threat to motor vehicle safety; therefore the three-day dealer notice does not apply. Our schedule for dealer and customer notification will be provided as soon as replacement parts availability is known.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this information, please let me know.

Sincerely,



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