

**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report**

On March 12, 2008, Aprilia, Noale, Italy decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the motor vehicle listed below, and Aprilia's designated agent Piaggio Group Americas, Inc. New York, NY, is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

2008 model year Aprilia Tuono motorcycles

**Date this report was prepared:** March 19, 2008

**Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable):** Code not yet issued.

**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.**

Piaggio Group Americas, Inc.  
140 45<sup>th</sup> Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10017

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

Pat Raymond, Director Aftersales, Piaggio Group Americas, Inc.

**Telephone Number:** (212) 380 4431 **Fax No.:** (212) 380 4458

**Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.**

Pat Raymond, Director Aftersales, Piaggio Group America, Inc.

**Signed:**



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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.

**I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall:** 2008 model year Aprilia Tuono 1000 R.

**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):** Aprilia                      **Model Years Involved:** 2008

**Model(s):** Tuono 1000 R

**Production Dates:** NA                      **Beginning:** **Ending:** NA

**VIN Range: Beginning:** ZD4RRTT138S000811 **Ending:** ZD4RRTT148S000820

**Vehicle Type:** Motorcycle                      **Bodystyle:** Motorcycle

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

**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.** NA

**II. Identify the Recall Population**

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

**Number of Vehicles:** Worldwide, 1103 vehicles are involved. Of the 1103, 309 reached the European market and 10, built to US specifications, are in transit to the US. The remaining vehicles were repaired at the factory before distribution.

**Model Year Potentially Involved:** 2008

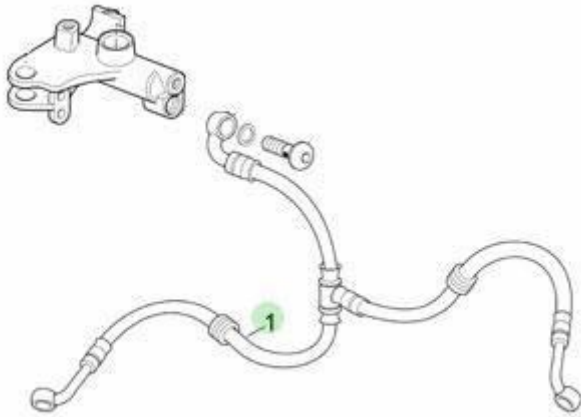
**Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall:** All 10 VINs built to US specifications, and identified for this recall, are affected.

**4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance:** 100% of the 10 affected units intended for the US market.

**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:** NA

### **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.** Information, provided by Aprilia Italy, indicates that a leak resulting from a faulty braze welding between the brake line and the metallic “banjo” bolt head, could occur in the front brake hydraulic line (#1 in the illustration below). This line connects the front master cylinder with the front, double piston, brake caliper as used on the Tuono 1000 R. This front brake line will be replaced on all 10 US specification VINs identified for this recall.



**Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.** A faulty braze welding between the brake line and the metallic “banjo” bolt head could allow for a leak to occur.

**Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.** A loss of brake pressure at the front brakes could occur.

**Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.** The rider may feel additional free play in the front brake lever, a delay in the activation of the front brake once the hand lever is pulled.

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

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

### **IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance**

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

**6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.**

An email, dated March 12, 2008 from Aprilia, provided the initial information and VIN range.

**7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.** PGA was notified by Aprilia Italy of the initiation of this recall.

#### **V. Identify the Remedy**

**8. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.** Replace the front brake line (identified as #1 in the illustration above) on all 10 VINs affected.

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

**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.** The production remedy was identical to the recall remedy.

#### **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.** All 10 US specification VINs affected by this recall are still in transit to the US. None have been delivered to dealers or customers. As such Piaggio Group Americas, Inc. will be handling this recall as a warehouse action, replacing the front brake line on the affected VINs before the 10 motorcycles are released to the dealers. In addition to the fact that these 10 VINs are still in transit, these VINs have been identified within PGA's sales system, are on a technical hold and are blocked from being wholesaled.

The Aftersales group within PGA is working to determine the arrival date(s) of the affected VINs in order to set a schedule for the front brake line update required of this recall.

#### **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.**

As this is being handled as a warehouse action, no communications to the dealers or the customers is planned.

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

**The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-579, As Amended:** *This information is requested pursuant to the authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response maybe used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administration enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.*