

March 12, 2008

08V-158
(2 Pages)

Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Defect Report Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573

Dear Mr. Smith:

Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. (KMC) has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2008 model year Kawasaki motorcycles. The following information, constituting a Defect Report, is submitted pursuant to the reporting requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.5(c).

- 1) The manufacturer's name: The affected motorcycles were manufactured by Kawasaki Motors Enterprise (Thailand) Co., Ltd. (KMT), and imported to the United States by Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. which will be responsible for the conduct of this recall.
- 2) Identification of the affected vehicles potentially containing the defect: The following models are affected by this recall:

Model	Year	Begin VIN	End VIN
EX250J8F	2008	JKAEXMJ1✓8DA02062	03598
EX250J8FL	2008	JKAEXMJ1X8DA02923	04368

("L" model indicates CA specification)

The affected vehicles were manufactured January 4-24, 2008.

- 3) The total number of vehicles potentially containing the defect: An estimated 487 units are affected.
- 4) The percentage of vehicles or items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect: For purposes of this recall, it will be assumed that 100% of the vehicles are affected.
- 5) A description of the defect including both brief summary and a detailed description, with graphic aids as necessary, of the nature and physical location of the defect:

Summary: On some eligible units, the engine may develop an oil leak that could result in oil being deposited on the rear tire.

Detailed: An engine crankcase vent hole in the air filter box may be blocked. If so, air pressure can build up inside the engine, causing the cylinder head cover gasket to fail and leak oil. If enough oil leaks from the engine, it could drip or spray onto the rear tire. This can create the risk of a crash, possibly resulting in injury or death.

- 6) A chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information with their dates of receipt:

2/13/2008 - Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd. (the vehicle designer) receives information from KMT concerning the potential problem with the air filter box and the resultant oil leak.

2/29/2008 - KHI advises KMC to inspect affected units.

3/6/2008 - KMC advises KHI that it has received two reports of oil leaks on the affected models.

3/7/2008 - KHI confirms the potential for oil leaks that could lead to oil deposition on the rear tire. KHI advises KMC of its intent to initiate a recall campaign.

- 7) The manner in which and the date when the information about the defect was obtained: See above.
- 8) A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect. The estimated date on which it will begin sending notifications to owners that there is a safety-related defect:

KMC will provide electronic and paper copies of a Recall Service Bulletin to all Kawasaki motorcycle dealers. Target date for sending these bulletins is March 14, 2008. Using warranty registration data, KMC will send Recall Letters to all purchasers of the affected units. Target date for sending these letters is March 17, 2008. A copy of the proposed customer Recall letter will be forwarded for NHTSA's review and approval. Note that this recall will affect some of the vehicles covered by the front brake hose recall (letter dated March 6, 2008), and the customer letter will be combined for these two recalls.

- 9) A representative copy of all notices, bulletins and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance. These will be provided to NHTSA when they are finalized.

Please contact the undersigned if there are any questions in this matter.

Sincerely,
KAWASAKI MOTORS CORP., U.S.A.



Roger F. Hagie
Director Public Affairs