

#### RECEIVED 2008 JULY 11 – 2:30 PM OFFICE OF RECALL MANAGEMENT DIVISION

#### 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

08V-311 (3 Pages)

July 2, 2008

Associate Administrator for Enforcement National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215) Room W48-302 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, D.C. 20590

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 and begin owner notification on July 23, 2008. Owner notification will be completed by the end of October, 2008. We will not include information in the Part 577 owner notification concerning reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a prenotification remedy as these vehicles are under warranty.

Very truly,

Starde

Frank D. Slaveter Senior Manager, Technical Compliance

Encl.

# **DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT**

#### 1. Manufacturer:

Nissan North America, Inc.

#### 2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

2007 and 2008 Model year Nissan Sentra vehicles manufactured from the Start of Production of the 2007 model year through February 22, 2008 of the 2008 model year. Vehicles manufactured after these dates are not affected, and none of the potentially affected master cylinders were installed in any other Nissan models. The affected vehicle production range was determined based on the production range of the affected part that may have been improperly manufactured.

The master cylinder supplier is:

Robert Bosch, LLC 3800 Hills Tech Drive Farmington Hills, MI 48331 248-876-1000

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 169,202

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

Unknown

#### 5. Description of the Defect:

Due to a machining irregularity by the supplier, the internal seal groove in the body of some brake master cylinders may allow for a gap in the groove contact area of the seal. This may result in brake fluid slowly leaking from the master cylinder into the brake booster assembly. If the amount of brake fluid in the master cylinder reservoir decreases to a particular level, the brake system warning indicator will illuminate as designed.

The affected vehicles are equipped with a split circuit diagonal brake system. If the warning lamp is continuously ignored and the vehicle is driven in this condition for a relatively long period of time, one of the brake circuits on the vehicle may not operate as designed. However, the other circuit will continue to operate as designed. Therefore, the vehicle braking system will continue to function and meet the "Hydraulic circuit failure performance requirements" specified in S7.10 of FMVSS no. 135.

### 6. <u>Chronology of Principal Events:</u>

March 2008 – Nissan initiated an investigation after receiving several reports of low brake fluid in the affected vehicles.

March, 2008 to June 2008 – an investigation of incident parts and vehicles was conducted to determine the cause, scope and the potential consequences of the issue.

June 25, 2008 – Nissan determined that a safety related defect exists and that a recall campaign should be conducted.

## 7. <u>Description of Corrective Action:</u>

Owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be notified. The master cylinder/brake booster assembly will be inspected. If brake fluid leakage is detected, the master cylinder will be replaced with a new one.

#### 8. Copy of Notices:

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