



September 9, 2008

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

08V-473
(2 pages)

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 and 2009 model year Kawasaki Motorcycles. The following information, constituting a Defect Report, provides the information immediately available. Additional information needed to fully comply with the reporting requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.5(c) will be submitted in a subsequent report.

- 1) The manufacturer's name: The affected vehicles were manufactured by Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd., of Akashi, Japan (KHI), and imported to the U.S. by Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. which will be responsible for conduct of this Recall Campaign.

- 2) Identification of the affected vehicles potentially containing the defect:

Model year	Model	Approx. Quantity
2008	VN900C8F	40
2008	VN900D8F	80
2009	VN900B9F	404
2009	VN900B9FL	80

- 3) The total number of vehicles potentially containing the defect: It is estimated that 604 vehicles are potentially affected.
- 4) The percentage of vehicles or items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect: Unknown, but for purposes of this recall, 100% of the vehicles will be assumed to be 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: fuel can leak from around the fuel filler cap. Detailed: due to manufacturing error, the rim of the fuel fill opening on the tank of some units is not quite flat, and the gasket on the bottom of the gas cap does not effectively seal against the rim. This can allow fuel to leak around the cap/filler junction under certain driving conditions.

- 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: This will be provided in a subsequent report.
- 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 September 23, 2008. Using warranty registration data, KMC will send Recall Letters to all purchasers of the affected units. Target date for sending these letters is September 26, 2008. A copy of the proposed customer Recall letter will be provided for NHTSA review and approval.

Note: KMC requests that NHTSA defer posting information concerning this Recall to its web site until September 26, 2008, the date of the customer notification. This way, KMC will have the opportunity to notify its dealers prior to public release of this information; dealer will thus be able to provide information to answer customer inquiries.

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

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

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



Roger F. Hagie *RH.*
Director Public Affairs