

October 21, 2008

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

08V-473
AMENDED

Re: 08V-473 Supplemental Information

Dear Mr. Smith:

Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. (KMC) has previously submitted a Defect Report under 49 CFR Part 573 concerning the fuel tank cap sealing surface for certain 2008 and 2009 Kawasaki VN900 "Vulcan" motorcycles. KMC has subsequently determined that a small number of fuel tanks from the same manufacturing lot were received as spare parts inventory. These tanks in spares inventory can be utilized for the vehicles affected by the recall, but are also potentially fitted to a wider range of 2006-2009 model year Vulcan motorcycles.

The suspect tanks can be supplied as replacement parts to the following models:

Model Year	2006	2007	2008	2009
	VN900B6F	VN900C7F	VN900B8F	VN900B9F
	VN900D6F	VN900D7F	VN900C8F	
			VN900D8F	

Fuel tanks may be replaced for a variety of reasons, both functional and cosmetic. While the suspect fuel tanks are identifiable by lot number, they are not tracked in KMC's parts system in this manner. KMC has determined that, since the first receipt of suspect tanks into inventory, a total of 205 tanks have been shipped to dealers. By searching KMC parts warehouses, destroying tanks from the affected lot, and comparing to the known number of suspect tanks originally placed into inventory, it has been determined that 131 tanks from the suspect manufacturing lot were included in this total of 205 tanks.

Owners may, or may not, have direct information that the tank on their motorcycle has been replaced. If the tank was replaced before initial retail sale (as might happen due to cosmetic damage to the tank that occurred during shipping) the owner may not be aware of this fact. KMC estimates that 39 such pre-sale tank replacements have occurred since the first suspect tanks entered parts inventory. An additional 38 tanks were replaced at some point under warranty, and it is likely that the owners are aware of this fact. Other tanks may have been replaced at the owner's expense because of crash damage or other reason. Since KMC is unable to determine if these tank replacements utilized one of the 131 suspect tanks, or one of the 74 "good" tanks, KMC will communicate with all VN900 owners as follows.

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KMC will send a letter to all 2006-2009 VN900 owners (except those who previously received Recall notifications). This letter will direct owners who know that their tank has been replaced to take the motorcycle to the dealer for inspection. It will also offer inspection for those owners who, for whatever reason, cannot determine if their tank was replaced. In addition, for the 39 owners whose tank was replaced pre-sale, KMC will send a separate letter that specifically directs the owner to take the motorcycle to the dealer for inspection. In all cases, any tank from the suspect lot will be identified by the dealer via the lot number, and replaced at no charge to the owner.

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

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger F. Hagie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Roger" being more prominent.

Roger F. Hagie
Director Public Affairs