



January 5, 2009

Via Registered Mail

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

Re: Supplemental Defect Report - 08V-623

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter will supplement and modify the previous Defect Report submitted on November 20, 2008. New information is in **bold**.

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. KMC submits this "Defect Report" to comply with the reporting requirements of 49 CFR Part 573.5(c).

- 1) The manufacturer's name: The affected vehicles were manufactured by Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd., of Akashi, Japan ("KHI") and imported to the United States by Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. ("KMC") which will be responsible for conduct of this recall.
- 2) Identification of the affected vehicles potentially containing the defect: This recall involves 2008 **and 2009** model year Kawasaki ZG1400 motorcycles as noted.

Model	Year	Beginning VIN	Ending VIN
ZG1400A8F/A8FL	2008	JKBZGNA1✓8A005041	JKBZGNA1✓8A013973
ZG1400B8F/B8FL	2008	JKBZGNB1✓8A005008	JKBZGNB1✓8A007582
ZG1400A9F/A9FL	2009	JKBZGNA1✓9A019004	JKBZGNA1✓9A021616
ZG1400B9F/B9FL	2009	JKBZGNA1✓9A010002	JKBZGNA1✓9A011314

- 3) The total number of vehicles potentially containing the defect: A total of **7986** vehicles are affected.
- 4) The percentage of vehicles or items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect: For purposes of this recall 100% of the vehicles will be assumed to contain the defect.
- 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: Trapped road debris may interfere with free movement of the rear brake pedal, preventing full release of the rear brake which can lead to overheating damage and possible brake failure.

Detail: Due to the shape of the rear brake pedal, small stones or other road debris can become trapped between the brake pedal and the rear master cylinder actuating arm. This can prevent full

release of the rear brake. Continuous activation of the rear brake can overheat the rear brake, potentially leading to rear brake damage and lock-up or failure of the rear brake.

- 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: These will be provided in a subsequent report.

December 8, 2007 – KHI receives information from Kawasaki Motors Europe N.V. (“KME”) of 3 cases of rear brake overheating.

January – November, 2008 – KHI receives additional information from KME of a trapped stone causing the rear brake to drag/overheat on 2 occasions. KHI begins investigation and testing.

November 13, 2008 – KHI determines the need to take recall action and notifies KMC.

November 20, 2008 - KMC provides Defect Report to NHTSA

December 15, 2008 - KHI advises KMC that testing to confirm the planned recall countermeasure (use of a revised rear brake pedal) has indicated the revised brake pedal can experience the same problem, and that a new countermeasure, consisting of a shield over the rear portion of the brake pedal will be employed.

- 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 notify all authorized Kawasaki motorcycle dealers by means of a recall bulletin. Target date for sending the bulletin is **January 6, 2009**. Kawasaki will notify all purchasers of the affected models using Kawasaki warranty records. Customer recall letters are expected to be mailed on **January 8, 2009**. KMC will reimburse customers that may have experienced this failure, if the failure was not already covered by the Kawasaki warranty.
- 9) A representative copy of all notices, bulletins and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance. A copy of the draft customer letter **for NHTSA review and approval is attached**. Final copies of the dealer bulletin and customer letter will be provided to NHTSA 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
Director Public Affairs

Enclosure



P. O. Box 25252, Santa Ana, California 92799-5252

2008 AND 2009 CONCOURS™ 14 BRAKE PEDAL COVER INSTALLATION

WARNING AND RECALL NOTICE

December 2006

KAWASAKI CUSTOMER
234 STREET
CITY, CA 99999-2222

MODEL 000001 TEST
ENGINE: ENGINE0002
FRAME: 00000000
0000000000

Dear Kawasaki Motorcycle Owner:

This notice has been sent to you in accordance with requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

The reason for this notice:

On eligible 2008 and 2009 Concours™ 14 (ZG1400A8F/L, B8F/L, A9F/L, B9F/L) units, small stones or other road debris can become trapped between the brake pedal and the rear master cylinder actuating rod. This can prevent full release of the rear brake. Continuous activation of the rear brake can result in overheating, damage, rear wheel lockup, or failure of the rear brake, creating the potential for an accident resulting in injury or death. Our records indicate that you have purchased one of these units.

What Kawasaki and your dealer will do:

Your Kawasaki dealer will correct this problem for you at no charge. The correction will consist of installing a cover on the brake pedal. The actual repair will take up to 30 minutes but may take longer due to scheduling at the dealership and the time needed to obtain required parts.

What you must to do to ensure your safety:

Please call your authorized Kawasaki Motorcycle dealer to schedule an appointment and take this letter with you at the time of your appointment.

DO NOT RIDE YOUR MOTORCYCLE UNTIL THE REPAIR HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

If you need help:

If you have questions or concerns that your dealer is not able to resolve, please Contact Kawasaki's Consumer Services Department at (866) 802-9381 (toll-free) between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m. PT Monday through Friday. Please have your Vehicle Identification Number ready when calling.

If your dealer fails or is unable to remedy this defect without charge within a reasonable amount of time (60 days after your first attempt to obtain remedy), you may submit a written complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E., Washington, D.C. 20590, or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1(888) 327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to www.safercar.gov.

OVER

If you received this notice in error:

Our records indicate you are the current owner of the 2008 or 2009 Concours motorcycle described in this letter. If you no longer have the vehicle described in this letter, please help us to update our records at www.Kawasaki.com by clicking on the "OWNER INFO" link or by calling Kawasaki toll free at (866) 802-9381 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m. PT Monday through Friday. Federal regulation requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

Reimbursement:

If you have experienced the failure described above prior to receiving this letter and have paid to have it corrected, you may be eligible for full or partial reimbursement for your documented cost of repair(s). To apply for reimbursement, please send copies of current owner and VIN information along with copies of repair orders and payment confirmation to the following address:

Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.
ATTN: Consumer Services Department
P.O. Box 25252
Santa Ana, California 92799-5252

Please note the following conditions for reimbursement:

- Only repairs specifically related to this recall are eligible for reimbursement. Other expenses such as towing, rental, and accommodations will not be refunded.
- Claims may be excluded if proper documentation is not included. Current owner and VIN information along with copies of repair orders and payment confirmation must be provided.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause, but we have taken this action in the interest of your safety and your continued satisfaction with your Kawasaki motorcycle.

Sincerely,

KAWASAKI MOTORS CORP., U.S.A.