



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

April 23, 2009

MS. CHERYL WEBB
LEGAL COORDINATOR
KTM NORTH AMERICA, INC.
1119 MILAN AVENUE
AMHERST, OHIO 44001

NVS-215dgl
09V-134

Subject: AXLE ASSEMBLY

Dear MS. WEBB:

This letter serves to acknowledge KTM North America, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to Federal law.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

KTM/690 DUKE/2009

KTM/690 SMC/2009

NHTSA Campaign Number: 09V-134

Mfg's Report Date: April 13, 2009

Components: STRUCTURE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 237

Summary:

KTM IS RECALLING 237 MY 2009 690 DUKE AND SMC MOTORCYCLES. DURING USE, THE FRONT FORKS COULD DEVELOP CRACKS; THIS COULD RESULT IN THE POSSIBILITY OF THE FRONT FORK INNER TUBE SEPARATING FROM THE AXLE CLAMP. THE CAUSE OF THE DEFECT INVOLVES IMPROPER HEAT TREATMENT OF THE FRONT FORK INNER TUBES BY THE MANUFACTURER.

Consequence:

SUBSEQUENTLY THIS COULD LEAD TO LOSS OF CONTROL AND A CRASH POSSIBLY WITH INJURY OR DEATH TO THE RIDER OR OTHERS.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL INSPECT AND REPLACE THE FRONT FORK TUBES FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING APRIL 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT KTM CUSTOMER RELATIONS AT 440-985-3553.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

We have reviewed your proposed owner notification letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577. However, please revise your owner letters to include the following updated NHTSA hotline information: "...the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>."

Please provide the following additional information and be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Delia Lopez who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525, or by email at Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. Person', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement