

RECEIVED

February 19, 2009

2009 FEB 20 P 12: 58

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

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

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 - 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 models were manufactured by Kawasaki Motors Enterprise (Thailand) (KMT) and imported to the U.S. by KMC, which will be responsible for conduct of this recall campaign.
- 2) Identification of the affected vehicles potentially containing the defect: The affected models are model year 2008 and 2009 KL650E.
- 3) The total number of vehicles potentially containing the defect: The number will be provided to NHTSA as soon as it is determined.
- 4) The percentage of vehicles or items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect: Unknown, but for purposes of this recall, it will be assumed that 100% of the vehicles are 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: On eligible units, wires in the wiring harness might be damaged due to rubbing contact with a portion of the motorcycle frame, resulting in loss of electrical power to the engine, and creating a risk to motor vehicle safety.
- 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 information 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 send a Recall Bulletin to all Kawasaki motorcycle dealers. The target date for this bulletin is February 20, 2009. KMC will send a Recall letter to every owner of the affected models, based on KMC warranty records. Target date for this mailing is February 24, 2009. Customers will be directed to return the motorcycle to a Kawasaki dealer for inspection and repair, as needed, of the wiring harness. A copy of the proposed letter will be provided to NHTSA for review and approval.

Note: KMC requests that NHTSA defer posting information concerning this Recall to its web site until February 24, 2009, 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. Copies of the recall bulletin and the final version of the customer letter will be provided in a subsequent report.

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

Roger F. Hagie
Director Public Affairs



Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.

**2008 AND 2009 KLR™ 650 MUFFLER MOUNT BOLT AND MAIN HARNESS
WARNING AND RECALL NOTICE**

MC09-03

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:

Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in 2008 and 2009 KLR 650 (KL650E8F/L, KL650E9F/L) models. On eligible units, the muffler mounting bolts can come loose due to heat expansion and vibration of the exhaust pipe. Additionally, the main harness can chafe against the frame and cause the engine to stop running. Continued use of the vehicle with either of these conditions could create the potential for a crash 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 two repairs; (1) removing the paint from the muffler mount tabs and replacing the mount bolts, nut, and washer; and (2) inspection and possible replacement of the main wiring harness. The actual repair will take up to one hour but may take longer due to scheduling at the dealership and the time needed to obtain required parts.

What you must 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.

THIS REPAIR MUST BE COMPLETED IN ADDITION TO ANY PREVIOUS REPAIRS INITIATED BY A KAWASAKI WARNING AND RECALL NOTICE.

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.

If you received this notice in error:

Our records indicate you are the current owner of the 2008 or 2009 KLR650 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. 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.

P . O . B o x 2 5 2 5 2
S a n t a A n a , C a l i f o r n i a
9 2 7 9 9 - 5 2 5 2

9 4 9 / 7 7 0 - 0 4 0 0
F a x 9 4 9 / 4 6 0 - 5 6 0 0
w w w . k a w a s a k i . c o m

9 9 5 0 J e r o n i m o R o a d
I r v i n e , C a l i f o r n i a
9 2 6 1 8 - 2 0 8 4