

RECEIVED
Mazda North American Operations

2009 FEB 23 A 9:39



Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

February 20, 2009

Dear Mr. Smith:

Re.: Submission of Part 573 report for certain 2007/2008/2009 Model Year CX-9 vehicles

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports," Mazda North American Operations (MNAO), on behalf of Mazda Motor Corporation of Hiroshima, Japan (Mazda), submits the following information concerning a safety-related recall action that it is initiating.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(1) - Manufacturer's Name:

Mazda Motor Corporation with Designated Agent:

David G. Robertson, Group Manager
Environmental, Safety and Powertrain Engineering
Mazda North American Operations
1500 Enterprise Drive, Allen Park
Michigan 48101-2053

Sec. 573.6 (c)(2) – Potentially Affected Vehicles:

Vehicles potentially affected are certain 2007/2008/2009 Model Year CX-9 vehicles built at the Hiroshima Plant of Mazda Motor Corporation in Japan (Mazda) from October 24, 2006 (Job#1) through January 19, 2009. The VIN range of affected vehicles is as follows:

2007MY CX-9: From JM3TB****70 100082 To 121109
2008MY CX-9: From JM3TB****80 121111 To 164252
2009MY CX-9: From JM3TB****90 164254 To 172398

Sec. 573.6 (c)(3) – Estimated Population of Vehicles Potentially Affected:

Approximately 30,600 vehicles in the United States and federalized territories.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(4) – Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Defect Condition:

Unknown

Sec. 573.6 (c)(5) – Description of the Defect:

On certain CX-9 vehicles having the power-adjustable seat with position memory function, the seat harness routed underneath the seat cushion may interfere with the front cover bracket which is attached on the front side of the seat cushion. Due to this, the covering of the seat harness may be damaged, the core wire of the harness may touch with the bracket and result in short-circuit. In the worst case, certain functions such as the seat position, height adjustment and seatback reclining may be activated unexpectedly and be uncontrollable, causing serious difficulty in driving.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(6) – Chronology of Events:

On January 16, 2009, Mazda first became aware of this matter when we received a report from the U.S. market describing an incident where the driver's power-adjustable seat unexpectedly moved forward during driving as the electric circuit of the seat short-circuited due to the damage of the seat harness. We immediately initiated an investigation of this matter. As a result of our investigation, we identified the cause of the problem as improper wire routing of the seat harness underneath the seat cushion. On February 13, 2009, Mazda determined that the condition constituted a safety related defect and that a recall campaign was required.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(7) – Basis of Non-Compliance Determination:

Not applicable.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(8) – Service Program:

Owners of record will be notified of the issue and instructed to take their vehicles to a Mazda dealer to have the seat harness inspected, and fastened on the seat frame with a cable tie. If necessary, the harness covering will be repaired. These repairs will be performed at no cost to the vehicle owner.

A copy of the reimbursement plan to be sent to owners and dealers as an attachment to the owner notification letter will be sent when they become available. With respect to reimbursement, customers will be reimbursed based on the submission of a receipt indicating the amount paid by the customer to remedy this problem.

Dealers will be notified of the voluntary recall during the week of March 2, 2009. Mailing of owner notification letters by first class mail will begin on March 9, 2009 and be completed within that day.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(9) – Service Program for Tire Replacement:

Not Applicable.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(10) – Copy of notification letters:

Copies of the notification letters to be sent to owners and dealers will be sent when they become available.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(11) – The Manufacturer's Campaign Number:

Mazda has assigned recall number 5309B to this action.

Sincerely yours,



David G. Robertson, Group Manager,
Environmental, Safety & Powertrain Engineering