



**BUELL MOTORCYCLE COMPANY**  
3700 WEST JUNEAU AVE. MILWAUKEE, WI 53201  
414.342.4680 | buell.com

March 31, 2009 (May 6, 2009 – Amended)

**AMENDED**

Ms. Kathleen C. DeMeter  
Director of Office of Defects Investigation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

The following information is submitted in accordance with National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's reporting regulations, 49CFR Part 573.6.

Buell Distribution Company, LLC. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on certain model year 2008 and 2009 Buell motorcycles.

**IDENTIFICATION OF EQUIPMENT POTENTIALLY CONTAINING THE DEFECT:**

The recall population of 3,316 motorcycles includes model year 2008 1125R motorcycles built October 30, 2007 through July 17, 2008; 2009 model year XB12R motorcycles built July 2, 2008 through February 12, 2009; and 2009 model year XB12Scg motorcycles built July 1, 2008 through February 10, 2009. This covers the entire range of the motorcycles potentially containing the subject defect.

**DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT:**

The subject motorcycles have a front brake line which may contact the front tire. The condition could cause a hole to develop in the front brake line, allowing brake fluid to leak. This condition might cause an ineffective front brake, leading to a possible crash and potential injury or death of the rider.

**CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS:**

July 2, 2008: Buell Quality Department began studying an issue on certain models in which the front brake line might contact the fender when the suspension was compressed. This condition was evaluated for its potential to cause cosmetic damage to the fender. At that time, no warranty claims had been received.

September 25, 2008: Buell received an e-mail from its French affiliate advising of an occurrence of a brake line rubbing on the front tire of a similar model vehicle. Buell reviewed its warranty and customer contact database and identified warranty claims and/or dealer contacts concerning 5 vehicles involving brake lines rubbing on the tire or fender. One claim involved a report of a brake fluid leak, although there was no report of diminished braking performance.

September 2008 - January 2009: Buell continued to monitor field experience with the subject motorcycles. During this time, Buell received four U.S. warranty claims involving brake line

contact with the fender, fork leg or tire. None of these claims led to brake fluid leaks or brake performance issues.

January 22, 2009: Buell's Quality Department brought this issue to the attention of the company's Recall Investigation Committee (RIC), which commenced an investigation into whether a potential safety-related defect existed.

January 2009 – March 2009: The RIC reviewed the warranty claims and customer/dealer contacts, as well as additional information provided by Buell's quality and engineering staff. During this time, three additional warranty claims were received involving brake line contact with the fender or tire (with no leaks or performance issues reported).

March 24, 2009: Based upon the RIC's analysis of the issue, Buell's executive management made a safety defect determination.

Buell is aware of no accidents or injuries caused by this condition.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM TO REMEDY THE DEFECT:**

The remedy of this defect is to re-route the front brake line. If damage to the brake line has occurred, Buell will also replace the brake line.

**SUPPLIER INFORMATION:**

J. Juan  
Poligono Industrial "Cami Ral"  
C/ Miquel Servet, 21-23  
08850 Gava  
Barcelona, Spain  
M. Angeles Juan Verdejo, Sales General Manager  
34 93 633 59 59

**BUELL PRE-NOTIFICATION REMEDY REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM:**

Buell Distribution Company, LLC. incorporates by reference herein the general reimbursement plan it has previously provided to NHTSA for reimbursing customers for remedy costs incurred prior to notification of this recall.

**DEALER AND OWNER NOTIFICATION:**


Buell Distribution Company, LLC. expects to notify its dealer network not later than the week of April 6, 2009 and the owner network on or about the week of April 20, 2009.

**PART 577 NOTICE LETTER:**

A draft of the owner notification letter is attached.

Please advise the undersigned of the campaign number assigned by ODI to this recall.

Sincerely,



Roger Roeszler

Buell Distribution Company, LLC.

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