



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

09V-347
(2 Pages)

September 2, 2009

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 defect reporting regulations, 49 CFR Part 573.6.

Buell Distribution Company, LLC. has decided that a defect affecting motor vehicle safety exists on the front brake line of certain 2009 model year XB12Ss model motorcycles.

IDENTIFICATION OF EQUIPMENT POTENTIALLY CONTAINING THE DEFECT:

This recall involves 405 model year 2009 Buell XB12Ss model motorcycles manufactured June 30, 2008 through June 4, 2009. This recall covers the subject motorcycle population in its entirety.

DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT:

The population of motorcycles described above has a front brake line which may contact the front tire. If this occurs, 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 and lead to a crash, which could result in injury or death of the rider.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS:

In May, 2009, Buell was advised by its affiliate in the UK of an XB12Ss model motorcycle that was showing minor witness marks on the front brake line (P/N H1531.4AN) due to rubbing on the tire. No fluid leak or negative effect on brake function was reported but an investigation was opened.

Subsequent inspection of four XB12Ss model motorcycles in the Buell demo fleet revealed that two showed some witness of rubbing similar to the reported UK incidents. However, also like the UK incident, neither of the demo fleet bikes leaked fluid or suffered adverse braking performance. Buell also searched its warranty and customer contact system databases and found no reports from the US of any claims, crashes or other incidents involving this issue.

On August 26, based upon review of the Recall Investigation Committee's investigation and analysis, Buell's executive management determined that a safety related defect existed on certain 2009 XB12Ss model motorcycles in the field which have the original OE routing and declared a recall to remedy the issue. This includes 405 vehicles in the US.

Periodic reviews of warranty and customer contact databases continue to show no reports in the US related to this issue. To our knowledge there have been no crashes or injuries reported that were the result of this condition.

Concurrent with this investigation, Buell developed an improved method of brake line retention. Both lab and road testing were employed to confirm that the tire-to-brake line contact which might occur with the original OE routing was eliminated by the new, improved retention system. A new brake line with improved routing has been introduced for the 2010 model year.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM TO REMEDY THE DEFECT:

The remedy for this defect is to inspect the front brake line and, if undamaged, install a guide on the line. If the line is damaged, it will be replaced and re-routed using the 2010 model year 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 DISTRIBUTION COMPANY, LLC. 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:

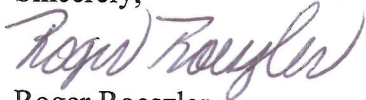
Buell Distribution Company, LLC. expects to notify its dealer network on or before the week of September 7, 2009 and the motorcycle owners on or before the week of September 21, 2009.

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.
839



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

Dear Buell Motorcycle Owner:

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

Buell Distribution Company, LLC. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on certain 2009 model year XB12Ss model motorcycles built June 30, 2008 through June 4, 2009. The front brake line on the subject motorcycles may contact the front tire. This contact could cause a hole to develop in the front brake line, allowing brake fluid to leak. This condition might cause an ineffective front brake and lead to a crash, which could result in injury or death of the rider.

Our records indicate that you purchased one of the affected motorcycles.

We strongly urge you to contact your dealer to make arrangements to have the appropriate service performed as soon as possible.

Please contact your Buell motorcycle dealer immediately and arrange an appointment to have your motorcycle repaired. Actual dealer labor time to perform this service will be less than one hour; however, due to scheduling, the dealer may require your motorcycle for a longer period of time. The parts and labor will be free of charge to you.

To verify that the service has been completed, your dealer will ask you to sign a recall claim. If you have sold your motorcycle, please forward the appropriate information about your purchaser. This will enable us to contact him/her and advise that person of this recall. Also, Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

If you have had this defect repaired before you received this letter, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of the problem associated with this recall. For more information contact Buell Distribution Company, LLC 1-414-343-8400. Should you choose to ride your motorcycle prior to this service, we urge you to be aware of this condition.

If you take your motorcycle to your dealer on a mutually agreed upon date and they do not perform the required service to your satisfaction, please contact Buell Distribution Company, LLC. for immediate assistance at the address or telephone number listed on this letterhead. If your dealer or Buell Distribution Company, LLC. fails or is unable to remedy your motorcycle without charge within a reasonable time, you may wish to inform the Administrator, The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590, or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or contact NHTSA at <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We regret any inconvenience this may cause you, but we are initiating this action in the interest of your personal safety and satisfaction with our products. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Buell Distribution Company, LLC.
0839