

# NISSAN

**NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.**

Corporate Headquarters  
One Nissan Way  
Franklin, TN 37068

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 685001  
Franklin, TN 37068-5001

Telephone: 615.725.1000

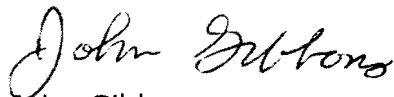
October 14, 2009

Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
Room W48-302  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Sir:

We are transmitting the enclosed Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573. A voluntary recall campaign will be initiated and your office provided with the notices. Nissan plans to notify dealers by November 6, 2009 and begin owner notification on November 9, 2009.

Very truly,



John Gibbons  
Senior Manager,  
Technical Compliance

Encl.

RECEIVED  
2009 OCT 19 A 9:04  
OFFICE OF DEFECTS  
NOTIFICATION

## **DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT**

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan Motor Co., Ltd.

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

2008-2009 Model Year Nissan Rogue vehicles manufactured from March 7, 2007 to July 20, 2009. Vehicles manufactured before and after these dates are not affected because they use a different steering gear housing cover screw as discussed below. Other Nissan and Infiniti vehicles are not affected because they use a different steering gear assembly.

The steering gear assembly supplier is:

NSK Ltd.  
1-6-3, Osaki, Shinagawa-ku,  
Tokyo 141-8560,  
Japan  
Tel: +81-3-3779-7111  
Fax: +81-3-3779-7431

Country of origin:

Malaysia

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 163,659.

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect:

Unknown

5. Description of the Defect:

On some of the affected vehicles, the steering gear housing cover screw may have been manufactured out of specification and the axial tension between the screw and gearbox housing may deteriorate over time. If the

axial loading force decreases, the screw may gradually loosen. If this occurs, the steering wheel will exhibit noticeable looseness, but will continue to control steering. If the vehicle continues to be driven in this condition, the screw may eventually come out of the steering gear housing. If large steering inputs are made with the cover screw missing, the pinion shaft may come out of the steering gear. This may result in a loss of steering control and could lead to a crash.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

June 2009 – Nissan Japan received a non-U.S. report from the field that an audible noise was heard and the steering did not operate properly.

June 2009 - July 2009 - An examination of the returned part was conducted. Based upon the result of the examination, an investigation of the manufacturing process at the supplier was conducted.

August 2009 – October 2009 – An investigation was conducted to determine the scope and the potential consequences of the issue. This involved a running test with an actual vehicle to study the effect of the issue on driving stability. Field data was also monitored. There have been no reports of crashes related to this issue in the United States.

October 9, 2009 – Nissan determined that a potentially safety related defect exists and that a voluntary recall campaign should be conducted.

7. Description of Corrective Action:

Owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be notified to take their vehicle to a Nissan dealer. The dealer will inspect whether the steering gear cover screw is loose. If it is loose, it will be retightened to the proper specification. In addition, the dealer will install a cover plate to prevent the screw from possibly coming out of the steering gear.

8. Copy of Notices:

Copies of all notices will be provided to NHTSA as they become available.