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By Recall Management Division at 1:46 pm, Mar 24, 2010

**NISSAN**

**NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.**

Corporate Headquarters  
One Nissan Way  
Franklin, TN 37068

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Franklin, TN 37068-5001

Telephone: 615.725.1000

March 19, 2010

10V-115  
(3 Pages)

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 April 9, 2010 and begin owner notification on April 12, 2010.

Very truly,



John Gibbons  
Senior Manager,  
Technical Compliance

Encl.

## **DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT**

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan North America, Inc.

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

2010 Model Year Nissan Frontier, Xterra and Pathfinder vehicles manufactured from February 22, 2010 to March 13, 2010. Vehicles manufactured before and after these dates are not affected because the issue is limited to a recent change in the supplier assembly process that has since been corrected. Other Nissan and Infiniti vehicles are not affected because they were manufactured at another plant that uses different equipment.

The name and address of the IP module supplier is:

Calsonic North America, Inc.  
One Calsonic Way  
Shelbyville, TN 37160  
Tel: (931) 684-4490

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 4,038.

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

Approximately 1%

5. Description of the Defect:

On some of the potentially affected vehicles, the fasteners securing the passenger front air bag module, and also the fasteners securing the steering shaft positioning bracket may not have been tightened to the proper torque specification due to a recent change in the supplier assembly process that has since been corrected.

If the fasteners securing the passenger front air bag module are not tightened to specification, the vehicle operator will hear a loud rattling

noise. In the event of a crash, the passenger front air bag deployment trajectory might be affected.

If the fasteners securing the steering shaft positioning bracket are not tightened to specification, they may loosen over time. If this occurs, the steering column may begin to rattle. If the vehicle continues to be driven in this condition, the fasteners could possibly come out of the steering column positioning bracket. This may result in noticeable steering column movement but is not expected to affect the ability to steer the vehicle.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

March 12, 2010 – during routine closed track quality testing, Smyrna, TN manufacturing plant identified two vehicles with a rattle noise in the glove box area while driving on a test track.

Nissan examined the two vehicles and based on those findings initiated an assembly process investigation at the plant. It was determined that torque checking software implemented by the supplier on February 22, 2010 was not functioning properly.

Nissan also initiated a yard and dealer inspection of the possibly affected vehicles.

March 16, 2010 – Nissan determined that a 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 the steering column and passenger front air bag fasteners to see whether they are loose, or missing. Any missing fasteners will be replaced and all loose fasteners will be retightened to the proper torque specification.

8. Copy of Notices:

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