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By Recall Management Division at 2:44 pm, May 07, 2010

NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.

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**10V-193
(3 Pages)**

May 3, 2010

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 May 7, 2010 and begin owner notification on May 17, 2010.

Very truly,

John Gibbons
Senior Manager,
Technical Compliance

Encl.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan North America, Inc.

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Certain 2010 Model Year Nissan Altima vehicles manufactured at the Canton, Mississippi plant from April 7, 2010 through April 13, 2010. Based on quality control data, vehicles manufactured outside of these dates and at the Smyrna, Tennessee plant are not affected. No other Nissan models are affected.

The supplier of the front side member is:

Unipres U.S.A., Inc.
201 Kirby Road
Portland, TN 37148
Tel: (615) 325-7311

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 113 Nissan Altima vehicles.

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

Unknown

5. Description of the Defect:

On some of the potentially affected vehicles, some of the front side member assembly components may not have been welded to specification due to a tool maintenance error that has since been addressed. Some of the potentially affected weld points are not structural and are intended solely for ease of assembly. Other weld points are structural. Only a small number of out-of-specification welds have been observed on any given vehicle. However, if several structural welds are out of specification on a single vehicle, it may have an effect on vehicle crash performance.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

April 2010 – An out of specification weld was identified during a quality inspection at the Canton manufacturing plant.

Nissan began investigating the assembly process and also reviewed the quality control data to identify the potentially affected vehicle population.

Nissan also conducted a yard inspection to identify other possibly affected vehicles. As a precautionary measure, Nissan requested dealers to place some vehicles on quality hold during the investigation.

April 26, 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 affected welds will be inspected and if necessary repaired.

8. Copy of Notices:

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