



RECALL CAMPAIGN BULLETIN

Reference:

NTB10-138a

Date:

February 18, 2011

VOLUNTARY SAFETY RECALL CAMPAIGN 2002 - 2004 FRONTIER AND XTERRA; STEERING COLUMN LOWER SHAFT

The Parts Information in the bulletin has been amended. Please discard previous versions.

CAMPAIGN ID #: R1037

NHTSA #: 10V-554

APPLIED VEHICLES: 2002– 2004 Frontier and Xterra (D22 and WD22)

Check Service COMM to confirm campaign eligibility.

INTRODUCTION

Nissan is conducting a Voluntary Safety Recall Campaign to replace the steering column lower shaft and joint on certain specific Model Year 2002-04 Frontier and Xterra vehicles manufactured from July 9, 2001 to October 20, 2004.

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

Nissan has assigned identification number R1037 to this campaign. This number must appear on all communications and documentation of any nature dealing with this campaign.

DEALER RESPONSIBILITY

It is the dealer's responsibility to check Service Comm for the campaign status on each vehicle falling within the range of this voluntary safety recall which for any reason enters the service department. This includes vehicles purchased from private parties or presented by transient (tourist) owners and vehicles in a dealer's inventory. **Federal law requires that new vehicles in dealer inventory which are the subject of a safety recall must be corrected prior to sale. Failure to do so can result in civil penalties by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.** While federal law applies only to new vehicles, Nissan strongly encourages dealers to correct any used vehicles in their inventory before they are retailed.

SERVICE PROCEDURE

Remove Steering Column Lower Shaft

NOTE: V6 model shown. 4-cyl models similar.

1. Set the vehicle on a hoist.
 - Lift the vehicle enough to take weight off the front tires.
 - Leave the key in the ignition in the OFF position.
2. Remove the left side inner rubber fender well cover (see Figure 1).

CAUTION: The rubber fender well cover may be brittle. Be careful when removing it.



Figure 1

3. Remove the bolts that secure the lower shaft at both ends (see Figure 2 and 3).

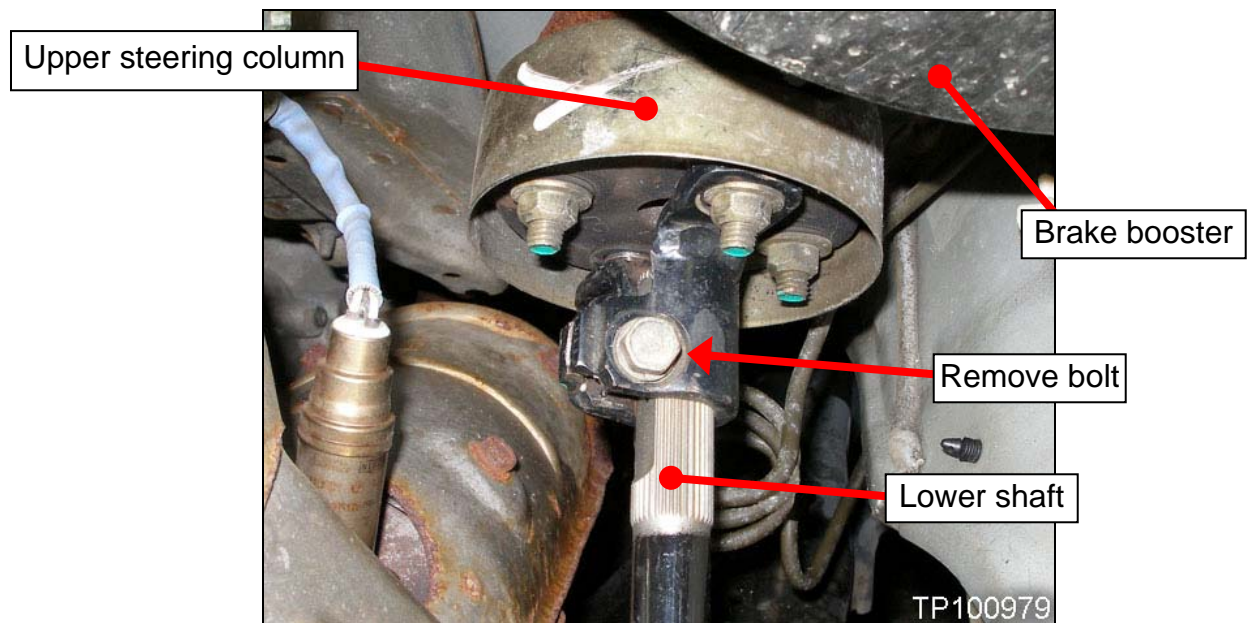


Figure 2 (viewed from under hood)

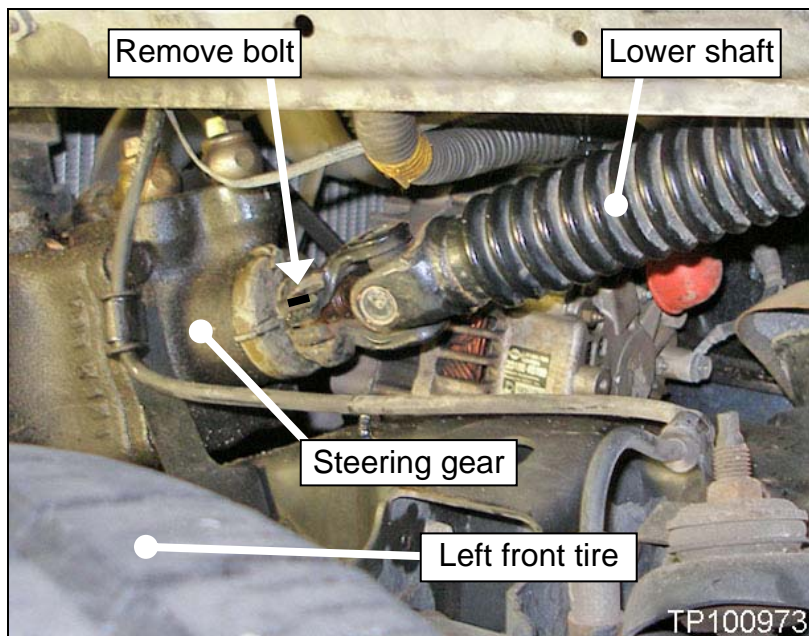


Figure 3 (viewed from left fender well area)

4. Move the lower shaft toward the steering column until the joint can be removed from the steering gear shaft. (see Figure 4 and 5).

CAUTION: If using an air hammer, regulate the air pressure as low as possible.

CAUTION: With the lower shaft removed, do NOT turn the steering wheel more than 90 degrees in either direction. Damage may occur to the spiral cable.

NOTE: The lower shaft will install in one position only at each end. Do not allow the steering gear shaft or steering wheel to turn more than 90 degrees in either direction.

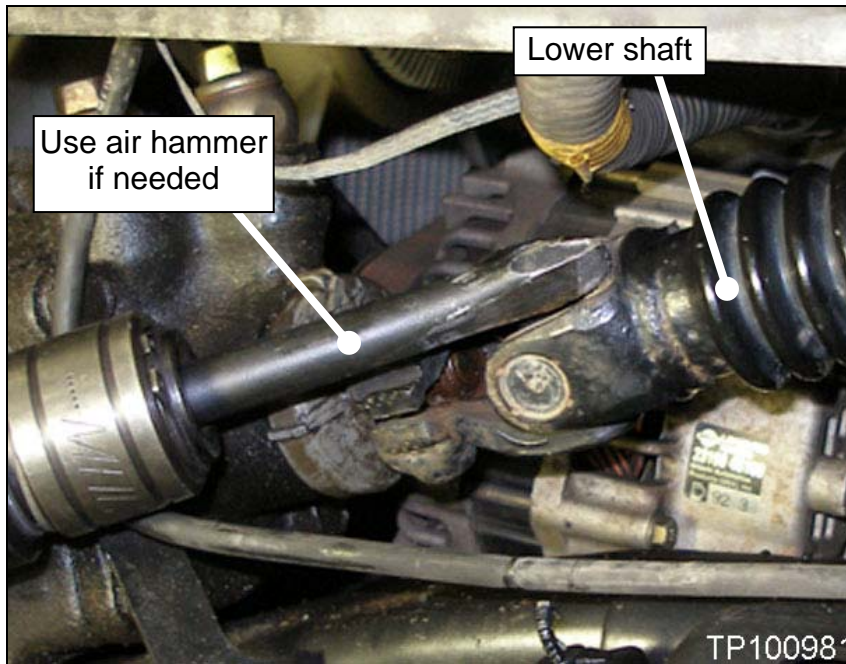


Figure 4

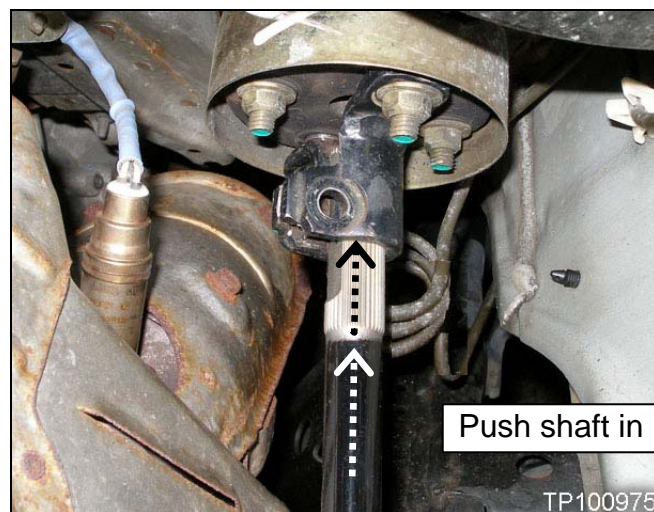


Figure 5

5. Remove the lower shaft from the vehicle by sliding it out of the steering column pinch clamp.

Install Steering Column Lower Shaft

NOTE: Make sure the shaft is installed and aligned as described below. If the shaft is not aligned correctly the steering wheel will become “off-center”.

1. Slide the new lower shaft into the pinch clamp on the steering column (see Figure 6).
 - Make sure to align the pinch clamp's gap with the flat side of the shaft (see Figure 6).

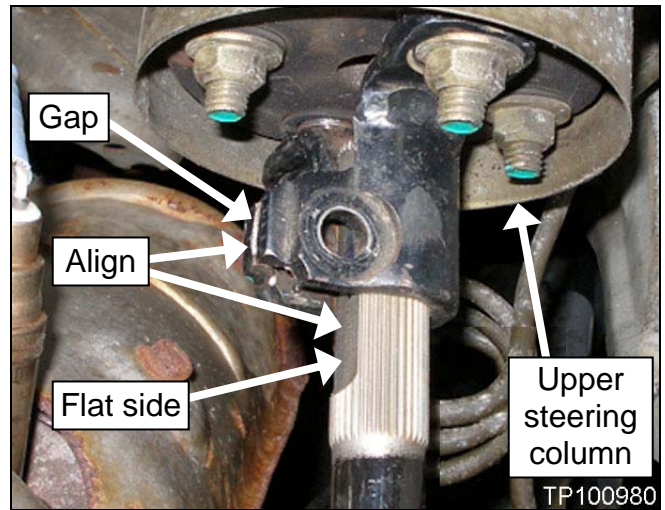


Figure 6

2. Align the gap in the joint with the notched area on the steering gear shaft, and then slide the joint on the shaft (see Figure 7).
 - Push the lower shaft toward the steering column as needed to allow joint installation on the steering gear shaft.

CAUTION: Do not use excessive force on the lower shaft.

3. Install new bolts.
 - Bolt torque: 23.0 - 29.8 N•m (2.35 - 3.04 kg-m, 17 - 22 ft-lb)

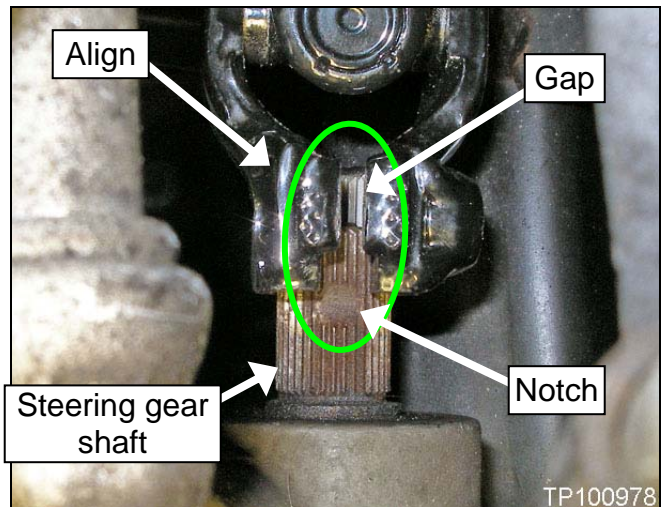


Figure 7

4. Install the rubber inner fender well cover.
5. Make sure the steering wheel is centered in relation to the steering system.

NOTE: Replacing the Steering Column Lower Shaft, if performed as detailed in this bulletin, will not result in the need for a wheel alignment.

PARTS INFORMATION

DESCRIPTION	MODEL	PART #	QUANTITY
JOINT – STRG LOWER	Frontier - 4-cyl and 2WD	48080-9Z00A	1
	Frontier – 4-cyl and 4WD Frontier – 6-cyl and 2WD Frontier – 6-cyl and 4WD Xterra – all	48080-9Z01A	1

CLAIMS INFORMATION

Submit a Campaign (CM) line claim using the following claims coding:

“CM” I.D.: R1037

DESCRIPTION	OP CODE	FRT
Replace Steering Column Lower Shaft – Salt Areas	R10370	0.4 hrs.
Replace Steering Column Lower Shaft – non-Salt Areas	R10371	0.3 hrs.

OWNER'S LETTER (example of typical owner's letter)

Dear Nissan Frontier Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Nissan has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2002 Model Year Nissan Frontier vehicles. Our records indicate that you own or lease one of the potentially affected vehicles.

Reason for Recall

On some of the affected vehicles, corrosion may form in the steering column joint. If the vehicle continues to be driven in this condition, over time, it may lead to cracking of the steering shaft during low speed maneuvers. In an extreme case where large steering inputs are required, the steering shaft may break. If this happens, it may result in a loss of steering control and could increase a risk of a crash.

What Nissan Will Do

Your Nissan dealer will replace the steering column shaft and joint with a shaft of a different design. This service, free of charge for parts and labor, should take about an hour to complete, but your Nissan dealer may require your vehicle for a longer period of time based upon their work schedule.

What You Should Do

Contact your Nissan dealer at your earliest convenience in order to arrange an appointment to have your vehicle repaired. Please bring this notice with you when you keep your service appointment. Instructions have been sent to your Nissan dealer. **If your steering wheel has noticeable stiffness and you believe it is harder to turn or slower to respond to steering inputs, we strongly urge you to take your vehicle to your Nissan dealer for immediate repairs.**

If the dealer fails, or is unable to make the necessary repairs free of charge, you may contact the National Consumer Affairs Department, Nissan North America, Inc., P.O. Box 685003, Franklin, TN 37068-5003. The toll free number is 1-800-NISSAN1 (1-800-647-7261). You may also submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

Thank you for your cooperation. We are indeed sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you.