



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

March 2, 2012

MR. JOHN GIBBONS  
SENIOR MANAGER,  
TECHNICAL COMPLIANCE OFFICE  
NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.  
P.O. BOX 685001  
FRANKLIN, TN 37068-5009

NVS-215et  
12V-079

**SUBJECT: SIDE AIR BAG NON-DEPLOYMENT**

**DEAR MR. GIBBONS:**

This letter serves to acknowledge Nissan North America's (Nissan) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**  
INFINITI/Q45/2003-2005

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 12V-079

**Mfg's Report Date:** February 20, 2012

**Components:** AIR BAGS: SIDE/WINDOW

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 1,349

**Summary:**

NISSAN IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2003-2005 INFINITI Q45 VEHICLES. A WIRING CONNECTOR FOR THE SEAT MOUNTED AIRBAG MAY EXPERIENCE INCREASED ELECTRICAL RESISTANCE, RESULTING IN THE NON-DEPLOYMENT OF THE SIDE AIR BAGS.

**Consequence:**

NON-DEPLOYMENT OF SIDE AIR BAGS COULD INCREASE THE RISK OF PERSONAL INJURY.

**Remedy:**

NISSAN WILL NOTIFY OWNERS, AND DEALERS WILL MODIFY THE WIRING CONNECTOR, FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT MARCH 12, 2012. OWNERS MAY CONTACT NISSAN CUSTOMER SERVICE AT 1-800-647-7261.

**Notes:**

CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

This recall was the subject of an Engineering Analysis, EA09-005, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

We note that your report states that "Nissan has not concluded that subject vehicles contain a safety defect. However, at the agency's request and in the interest of Nissan's consistent cooperation with NHTSA, Nissan will conduct a notification and remedy campaign." In our view, this statement has no force or effect in terms of Nissan's obligation to undertake and complete the recall and NHTSA does not agree with it.

We further note that Nissan reported all but 1,349 of the vehicles identified in its report were remedied under a prior Voluntary Service Action. Accordingly, the number of vehicles to be campaigned under the safety recall is at most 1,349. We request Nissan submit an updated notification or other written documentation to verify that an adjustment to the population is necessary, and that its quarterly reports submitted on this recall reflect the correct figure.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Edison Thompson who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-9525, or by email at Edison.Thompson@dot.gov, or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement