



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 17, 2012

Mr. JONATHAN LAFORTE
TECHNICAL MANAGER
DUCATI NORTH AMERICA
10443 BANDLEY DRIVE
CUPERTINO, CA 95014

NVS-215ET
12V-399

Subject: Ohlins Steering Damper Washer

Dear Mr. LAFORTE:

This letter serves to acknowledge DUCATI NORTH AMERICA's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) 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:

DUCATI/1199 PANIGALE/2012-2013

Mfr's Report Date: August 2, 2012

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-399

Components:

STEERING

Potential Number of Units Affected: 2,411

Problem Description:

Ducati is recalling certain model year 2012-2013 1199 Panigale motorcycles manufactured from March 16, 2012, through July 12, 2012. Due to an incorrect assembly tolerance, the Uniball bearing on the damper rod eyelet could slip out of its seat on the Ohlins steering damper.

Consequence:

The steering damper can detach from its mounting point which can lead to loss of control of the motorcycle, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Ducati will notify owners, and authorized dealers will install a special washer at the steering damper's mounting point, free of charge. Ducati has not provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact Ducati at 1-800-231-6696 or through their website at www.ducati.com.

Notes:

Ducati's recall number is RCL-12-006. 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>.

We have received Ducati's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that it is expected owners will be notified of a safety defect in their vehicles within 60 days of a manufacturer's notification to NHTSA of a safety defect in those vehicles.

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 202-366-9525, or by email at edison.thompson@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian".

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