Kawasaki
Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.

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12V-134
(3 Pages)

March 29, 2012

Mr. Claude Harris
Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Defect Report Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 573

Dear Mr. Harris:

Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. ("KMC") has determined that defects which relate to motor vehicle safety exist in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 model year Concours 14 Police Motorcycles. The following information, constituting a Defect Report, provides the information needed to fully comply with the reporting requirements of 49 C.F.R. Part 573.6(c).

1) The manufacturer's name: The vehicles were manufactured by Kawasaki Heavy Industries. Ltd., ("KHI") of Akashi, Japan, imported into the United States by KMC, and further manufactured with the installation of additional original equipment by either Beaudry Motors, Inc. ("Beaudry") of Hayden, Idaho or BMS, Inc. of Post Falls, Idaho. KMC, Beaudry and/or BMS will assume responsibility for conduct of this recall.

2) Identification of the affected vehicles potentially containing the defects: All 2009 through 2012 model years Concours 14 Police Motorcycles. The approximate date that Beaudry or BMS first began installing additional equipment was June 2009 and the approximate date that Beaudry or BMS last installed additional equipment was February 2012.

3) The total number of vehicles potentially containing the defects: Approximately 268.

4) The percentage of vehicles or items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defects: For purposes of this recall 100% of the vehicles will be assumed to contain the defects.

5) A description of the defects, including both a brief summary and a detailed description, with graphic aids as necessary, of the nature and physical location of the defects:
Brief Summary -- Failure of electrical systems, loss of engine power.
Detailed Description –The modifications and reconfiguration of the electrical system by Beaudry or BMS (i.e., addition on an auxiliary battery and charging relay) could cause an electrical overload on the charging circuit between the regulator and the two batteries. This condition can cause the main 30 ampere fuse to be operated repeatedly nearly or in excess of its design capacity. Over time, this can lead to the main fuse overheating, thus melting the relay fixture and/or a blown main fuse. This

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results in a loss of electrical current necessary for the operation of the motorcycle, including a loss of engine power. The routing of the additional wiring harness installed by either Beaudry or BMS can lead to chafing or pinching of the wires. This condition can also lead to an electrical short resulting in a blown main fuse.

6) A chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defects are related to motor vehicle safety including a summary of warranty claims, field or service reports and other information with their dates of receipt:

Nov. 2011-- KMC received a complaint from a police department regarding a blown main fuse and inspected that motorcycle shortly thereafter.
Dec. 2011-- KMC technical representatives are able to examine the vehicle at the police department
Dec. 2011-- KMC conducts a review of field reports and finds 7 reports of Concours 14 Police Motorcycles with blown main fuses.
Dec. 2011-- KMC reports this issue to KHI.
Dec. 2011 to Feb. 2012-- KMC and KHI conduct a technical investigation of the problem of the blown main fuses on Concours 14 Police Motorcycles.
Feb. 2012-- KMC technical representatives examine one other Concours 14 Police Motorcycle with a blown main fuse.
March 23, 2012-- KMC and KHI determine the equipment installed by Beaudry and BMS contains safety related defects and that a recall is necessary.

7) The manner in which and the date when the information about the defects was obtained: See above.

8) A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect. The estimated date on which it will begin sending notifications to owners that there is a safety-related defect: Recall Service Bulletin will be sent to Kawasaki motorcycle dealers and law enforcement agencies that purchased these police motorcycles. Target date for sending these bulletins is April 5, 2012. Using purchase records, KMC will send a recall notification letter to all law enforcement agency purchasers (consumers) of these police motorcycles. Target date for mailing these notices is April 9, 2012. The initial recall notification letter will advise the agencies to charge both the main battery and the auxiliary battery every night. The agencies will also be provided operational information which will assist in eliminating the problem of electrical failure. The initial dealer bulletin will contain the information provided to the police agencies with additional information regarding the inspection of the wiring in the area around the batteries and the fuel tank. At a later date, KMC will issue a second notification to the police agencies and a second dealer bulletin announcing a detailed repair campaign.

Note: KMC requests that NHTSA defer posting information concerning this Recall on its website until April 9, 2012, the date of the purchaser notification. This way, KMC will have the opportunity to notify its dealers prior to public release of this information, and the dealers will thus be able to answer inquiries from purchaser law enforcement agencies.

9) A representative copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect: A copy of the customer letter is provided with this report for review and approval. Final copies of the recall service bulletin and customer letter will be sent to NHTSA after they have been finalized.

Please contact the undersigned if there are any questions on this matter.

Sincerely,
Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.

Russel Brenan
Senior Advisor, Government Relations & Public Affairs