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July 8, 2013

Ms. Nancy Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: 2013 MY Mitsubishi Outlander Sport Front Left Strut

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. (MMNA) submits this Defect Information Report (DIR) pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 573.6 - Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports. This DIR contains details of a potential defect relating to motor vehicle safety involving the front left strut installed on certain 2013 MY Mitsubishi Outlander Sport vehicles.

MMNA is unaware of any injuries and/or accidents related to this issue

The subject vehicles are manufactured and distributed in the United States by MMNA. This recall campaign will also be launched in Canada.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Swearingen", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Don Swearingen
Vice President, Fixed Operations
Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.
Telephone 714.372.6110
Fax: 714.799.4626
Email: DSwearingen@mmsa.com



Sec 573.6 (c) (1) Manufacturer's Name

Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc

Sec 573.6 (c) (2) - Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect

Certain vehicles of the following model year and manufacturing period:

Make	Line	Model Year(s)	Manufacturing Period
Mitsubishi	Outlander Sport	2013	January 17, 2013 – January 25, 2013

Manufacturer of the Strut Assembly

KYB Americas Corporation
2625 North Morton Franklin, Indiana 46131
Direct: (317)736-2117 → QC Manager Mr. Kenneth Ralph

Sec 573.6 (c) (3) - Total Number of Vehicles

Vehicle Line	Number of Vehicles		
	United States	Puerto Rico	Total
Outlander Sport	289	16	305

Sec 573.6 (c) (4) - Approximate Percentage of Vehicles Actually Containing the Defect

The approximate percentage of vehicles in the United States and Puerto Rico that may experience the subject condition is unknown. There are up to 117 outstanding suspect parts installed in vehicles that were sold in several markets. An unknown number were installed in vehicles sold in the United States and Puerto Rico. There is no reliable method to determine which vehicles contain these parts unless an inspection for the specific date code on the part is conducted.

Sec 573.6 (c) (5) - Defect Description

The stabilizer link bracket on the front left strut tube may have been improperly welded during the manufacturing process. As a result, the front stabilizer link bracket may become disconnected from the front left strut assembly tube. If use continues under this condition, a detached bracket could cause damage to the tire and/or brake hose. There have been no reports of injury or damage to the tire or brake hose.

Sec 573.6 (c) (6) - Chronological Summary of Events Leading to Determination

In May 2013, Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. (MMNA) Techline (technician support hotline) received a call from an authorized Mitsubishi Motors dealership regarding a customer complaint for abnormal noise while driving the vehicle. Techline assisted the dealer in diagnosing the source of the problem to the front left strut and it was replaced under manufacturer warranty. MMNA inspected the subject part and determined



that the stabilizer bracket became disconnected from the strut tube. MMNA then began an investigation of the part supplier's manufacturing processes to determine the root cause of the failure.

In June 2013, MMNA and the part supplier completed its investigation and analysis of the stabilizer link bracket issue. The root cause of the failure resulted from insufficient welding. The population of potentially affected front strut assemblies was limited to two shifts at the supplier. Countermeasures were immediately enacted to ensure current and subsequent production parts received sufficient weld penetration. The manufacturing dates of the suspect components were determined and the suspect vehicle population was established. The suspect parts were only installed on vehicles during the manufacturing dates in Section 573.6 (c) (2) above.

Based on the results of this investigation, MMNA believes that up to 120 vehicles manufactured from January 17, 2013 through January 25, 2013 may have received the suspect part. Three of these vehicles have been repaired which leaves up to 117 remaining vehicles globally which may have this condition.

On June 28 2013, MMC decided that field action was necessary as a safety recall for the vehicles potentially containing the defective parts.

Sec 573.6 (c) (8) - Proposed Remedy Description, Reimbursement, and Notification Schedule

Owners of all affected vehicles will be notified and encouraged to bring their vehicles in for an inspection. Dealers will inspect the front left strut assembly for a specific date code that corresponds to the part's manufacture date. The strut assembly will be replaced on the vehicles identified with the specific date code, free of charge. Owners seeking reimbursement for any expenses associated with this recall will be directed in the notification letter to contact Mitsubishi Customer Relations for instructions on how to apply for a refund.

MMNA is working internally to determine the dealer and customer notification dates and will update accordingly.

Sec 573.6 (c) (11) - Manufacturer's Campaign Number

SR-13-008

