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NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.

Corporate Headquarters
One Nissan Way
Franklin, TN 37068

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 685001
Franklin, TN 37068-5001

Telephone: 615.725.1000

NISSAN

April 25, 2014

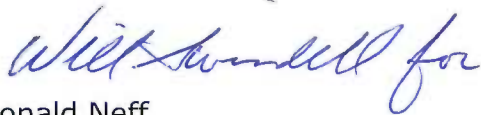
Ms. Nancy Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
Room W48-302
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Madam:

We are transmitting the enclosed Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573. A voluntary safety recall has been initiated and your office will be provided with the notices. Nissan plans to notify dealers on April 28, 2014 and will notify all affected owners within 60 days.

We will not include a statement in the Part 577 owner notification concerning reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy as the subject vehicles are under warranty.

Very truly,



Donald Neff
Manager,
Technical Compliance

Encl.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan North America, Inc.

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Certain 2014 Model Year Nissan Rogue vehicles manufactured in the Smyrna, TN plant from January 10, 2014 to January 17, 2014.

No other Nissan or Infiniti models are affected. The subject vehicle range was determined based on the production range of vehicles that might have been manufactured with improper bolts in the steering column.

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 1,644 vehicles total will be recalled. However, not all of those vehicles were built with improper bolts.

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect:

Less than 1%

5. Description of the Defect:

Due to an isolated supplier parts delivery error, an incorrect bolt may have been used in connecting the intermediate shaft to the upper steering assembly in the subject vehicles (Figure 1).

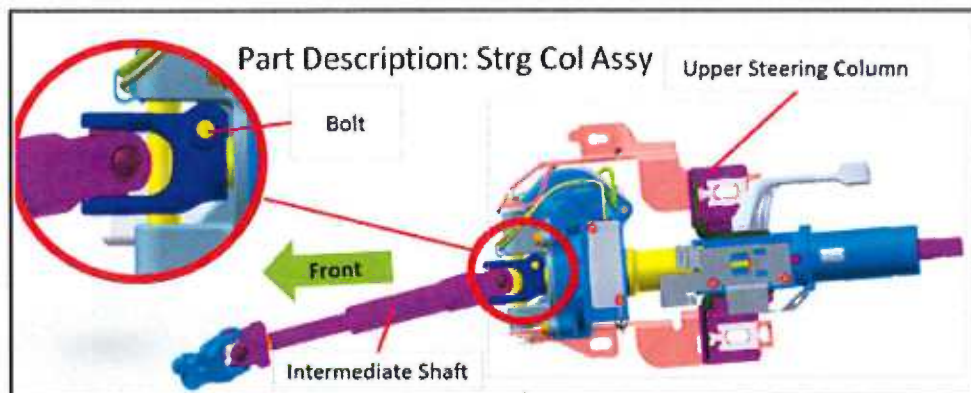


Figure 1 – Bolt location

The incorrect bolt contains a flange that engages the walls of the shaft, preventing it from reaching the proper torque specification when tightened. This may cause the joint to lose tension, allowing the bolt to loosen, which will create a rattle. If this is ignored, the bolt could eventually loosen further over time and fall out, potentially causing loss of vehicle control, increasing a risk of a crash.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

January 2014 – A rattle was detected during a routine dynamic driving evaluation on a Rogue vehicle. The source of the rattle was identified as a loose bolt in the steering column assembly that appeared to not have been properly torqued. Further investigation revealed that the loose bolt was not the bolt specified for use in the steering column.

Nissan initiated a yard inspection and concurrently began an engineering analysis to determine the root cause, scope and the potential consequence of the issue. This investigation included a supplier audit.

February 2014 - A yard inspection identified approximately 98 vehicles that had incorrect bolts connecting the intermediate shaft to the upper steering assembly. These vehicles were remedied at the plant.

A dealer inspection was initiated to determine if the subject issue was present on any vehicles delivered to the dealers. Nissan confirmed that 10 vehicles at dealers had incorrect bolts connecting the intermediate shaft to the upper steering assembly. At this juncture, Nissan had not determined that this issue was a safety defect but was actively monitoring field information and had not received any reports of steering column issues in the subject vehicles.

March 2014 through April 2014 - The supplier audit revealed that the supplier mistakenly delivered one tote of incorrect bolts to the assembly line. As a result, incorrect bolts may have been used to assemble the steering column during a specified time period that correlates to January 10, 2014 to January 17, 2014 vehicle production dates.

In parallel to the supplier audit, analysis of the potential consequence of this issue concluded that an incorrect bolt may not retain the proper clamp load and could eventually loosen to the point of falling out.

April 22, 2014 – Nissan determined that a safety-related defect exists and that a recall campaign will be conducted.

7. Description of Corrective Action:

Owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be notified to take their vehicle to a Nissan dealer. The dealers will inspect the steering column assembly. If an incorrect bolt is installed, the dealer will remove and reassemble the steering column assembly using the correct bolt.

8. Copy of Notices:

Copies of all notices will be provided to NHTSA as they become available.