

#### NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.

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May 1, 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 May 2, 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 Wanager, Technical Compliance

Encl.

# DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

## 1. Manufacturer:

Nissan North America, Inc.

# 2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Model	Dates of Manufacture
MY 2014 Nissan Pathfinder	March 7, 2014 to March 10, 2014
MY 2014 Nissan Rogue	March 7, 2014 to March 10, 2014
MY 2014 Infiniti QX60	March 8, 2014 to March 9, 2014

No other Nissan or Infiniti models are affected. The vehicle population was determined based on an assembly process error that, as described in Section 6 below, only occurred between March 7, 2014 and March 10, 2014.

## 3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 334 vehicles may be affected.

Model	Total Number of Vehicles
MY 2014 Nissan Pathfinder	105
MY 2014 Nissan Rogue	217
MY 2014 Infiniti QX60	12

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

Less than 3%

## 5. <u>Description of the Defect:</u>

Due to an assembly process issue described in greater detail below, one of the five lug nuts on the right hand side wheels may not have been tightened to specification. If a lug nut is not properly tightened, it may loosen and eventually fall off. If this occurs, the remaining four lug nuts may loosen over time, which could eventually result in wheel separation if driven in this condition over an extended period of time. If this were to occur, it could lead to a crash.

#### 6. Chronology of Principal Events:

February 28, 2014 – Nissan identified an issue with the right-hand side automated multi-spindle air tool used to secure the five (5) wheel lug nuts. More specifically, 1 of the 5 spindles on the tool was not operating properly, while the other 4 spindles continued to operate properly. Upon identifying the issue, Nissan put a temporary manual process in place to supplement the tool and help ensure that the 5<sup>th</sup> lug nut was sufficiently tightened.

March 7, 2014 – The staff assigned to perform the temporary manual lug nut torque check was changed.

March 10, 2014 – During a quality inspection, Nissan identified a single vehicle within the manufacturing date range specified in Section 2 above with a missing lug nut on the right rear wheel.

Nissan initiated a plant hold and began an investigation into the cause and scope of the issue. Nissan determined that the technician assigned to perform the temporary manual lug nut torque check, during the period of March 7 through March 10, may not have followed the correct procedure to secure the lug nut to the proper torque. Immediate process countermeasures were implemented.

Nissan conducted a yard inspection of 2,293 vehicles at the plant. The inspection identified approximately 52 vehicles manufactured between March 7 and March 10 that contained a loose lug nut. These vehicles were remedied at the plant.

March 26, 2014 - A dealer inspection was initiated to determine if the subject issue was present on any vehicles delivered to the dealers.

April 2014 – Nissan confirmed that 21 vehicles at dealers contained a loose lug nut, and 1 vehicle was missing a single lug nut. These vehicles were manufactured between March 7 and March 10.

Based on engineering judgment, Nissan concluded that one loose or missing lug nut would have no immediate effect on vehicle performance. However, if the lug nut falls off and the vehicle continues to be driven in this condition, the remaining four lug nuts may loosen over time, which could eventually result in wheel separation.

April 24, 2014 – Based on the results of the dealer inspection and the possible effect of a missing lug nut, Nissan determined that a safety-

related defect exists and that a voluntary safety recall campaign will be conducted.

#### 7. <u>Description of Corrective Action:</u>

Owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be notified to take their vehicle to a Nissan dealer. The dealers will inspect all lug nuts and tighten any loose lug nuts to the correct specification, all at no cost to the owner.

#### 8. Copy of Notices:

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