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Ms. Nancy Lewis Associate Administrator for Enforcement National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215) 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W45-306 Washington, DC 20590

June 23, 2014

Dear Ms. Lewis,

Re.: Submission of Part 573 report for 2003-2004 model year Mazda6 and 2004 model year RX-8 (Air Bag Inflator concern)

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports," Mazda North American Operations (MNAO), on behalf of Mazda Motor Corporation of Hiroshima, Japan (Mazda), submits the following information concerning a voluntary recall action that it is initiating.

# Sec. 573.6 (c)(1) - Manufacturer's Name:

Mazda Motor Corporation with Designated Agent:

David Robertson, Group Manager Environmental, Safety and Powertrain Engineering Mazda North American Operations 46976 Magellan Drive Wixom, MI 48393

### Sec. 573.6 (c)(2) - Potentially Affected Vehicles:

### Identification of the vehicles potentially affected:

2003-2004 model year Mazda6 built at Auto Alliance International, Inc. Flat Rock, Michigan. The VIN range is now under review. We will provide an updated Part573 report, when the VIN range is identified.

2004 model year RX-8, built from June 25, 2003 through June 30, 2003 at Hiroshima Plant of Mazda Motor Corporation. Japan. Vin Range: JM1FE \*\*\*40 106452 - 107142

#### Basis of determination of the recall population:

The vehicle population was based on manufacturing records of Mazda.



Affected Component: Passenger side frontal air bag unit

(For Mazda6)

Manufacturer:

TK Holdings Inc.

Address:

888 16th Street, NW, Suite 800 Washington, DC 20006

Country of Origin:

Mexico

(For RX-8)

Manufacturer:

Takata Corporation

Address:

12-31 Akasaka 2-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 107-8508, Japan

Country of Origin:

Japan

### Sec. 573.6 (c)(3) – Estimated Population of Vehicles Potentially Affected:

Approximately 14,000 Mazda6 vehicles and 50 RX-8 vehicles in the United States and its territories are potentially affected.

# Sec. 573.6 (c)(4) – Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Defect Condition:

Unknown

#### Sec. 573.6 (c)(5) – Description of the Defect:

In certain propellant wafers for the passenger's seat air bag on 2003-2004 model year Mazda6 and 2004 model year RX-8, some propellant wafers have been produced with an inadequate compaction force, or may have been exposed to uncontrolled moisture conditions (those wafers could have absorbed moisture beyond the allowable limits). Therefore, in both cases, the propellant could potentially deteriorate over time due to environmental factors, which could lead to over-aggressive combustion in the event of an air bag deployment. This could create excessive internal pressure within the inflator, and the body of the air bag module could rupture.

#### Sec. 573.6 (c)(6) – Chronology of Events:

On June 5, 2014 – Mazda was notified by Takata that the excessive deployment of the passenger side air bag occurred on vehicles produced by other manufacturers, which were out of the subject coverage of initial recall campaign (13V-130) in April 2013.

On June 11, 2014 – Mazda was requested by Takata to conduct an additional recall campaign with the subject coverage expanded, because it was found that the subject coverage was not precisely determined in their original investigation which was the basis for Mazda's subsequent recall campaign (13V-130).

On June 19, 2014 – Accepting the request from Takata, Mazda has determined to conduct an additional recall campaign on the expanded population of vehicles.

## Sec. 573.6 (c)(7) – Basis of Non-Compliance Determination:

Not applicable.

# Sec. 573.6 (c)(8) - Service Program:

Owners of record will be notified of this issue and instructed to take their vehicles to a Mazda dealer for repair. The repair will be to replace the inflator for passenger side frontal air bag. The repair will be performed free of charge to the vehicle owners.

Dealers will be notified of the voluntary recall by mid-August, 2014. The mailing of owner notification letters by first class mail will begin by mid-August, 2014.

# Sec. 573.6 (c)(9) – Service Program for Tire Replacement:

Not applicable.

## Sec. 573.6 (c)(10) - Copy of notification letters:

A draft of the planned owner notification letter will be provided when it becomes available.

## Sec. 573.6 (c)(11) – The Manufacturer's Campaign Number:

Mazda has assigned recall number 7714F to this action.

Sincerely yours,

David Robertson, Group Manager,

Environmental, Safety & Powertrain Engineering

Mazda North American Operations