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(3 pages)

Harley-Davidson Motor Company
3700 West Juneau Ave., PO Box 653, Milwaukee, WI 53201
414/342-4680

VIA EMAIL (RMD.ODI@DOT.GOV) and CERTIFIED MAIL

July 7, 2014

Ms. Nancy L. Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. Lewis:

The following information is submitted in accordance with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's defect and noncompliance reporting regulations, 49 CFR Part 573.6.

Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc. has decided that a defect related to motor vehicle safety may exist with certain model year 2014.5 FXDL Dyna Low Rider motorcycles.

IDENTIFICATION OF VEHICLES POTENTIALLY CONTAINING THE DEFECT:

This recall involves 3,361 motorcycles shipped in the U.S, which represents certain model year 2014.5 FXDL models built 1/6/2014 through 6/19/2014. This recall covers the subject motorcycle population in its entirety, although not all of these motorcycles may contain the defect.

DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT:

Some of these motorcycles may have been assembled with a top engine mount bracket assembly (P/N 16400026) that has a resonant frequency equivalent to 5800 RPM engine speed. When the engine is operated at that speed, it causes excessive vibration in the ignition switch, which mounts to that bracket. This excessive vibration can cause the switch to move from the "IGN" (ignition on) position to the "ACC" (accessory only) position, shutting the engine off. The production Electronic Control Module (ECM) calibration will not allow engine speed to exceed 5600 RPM, but Harley-Davidson offers street-legal performance calibrations which will allow the engine to operate above 5600 RPM. If a performance calibration has been installed which permits the engine to exceed 5600 rpm, it could allow a condition that may potentially cause the engine to stall unexpectedly. A stall while riding in traffic could lead to a crash.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS:

On 3/31/14, Harley-Davidson's Customer Service department notified the Harley-Davidson Recall Investigation Committee (RIC) that the ignition switch on an FXDL motorcycle fitted

with a non-Harley-Davidson exhaust system moved on its own from the “IGN” (ignition on) position to the “ACC” (accessory only) position during operation on a chassis dynamometer for tuning purposes.

The RIC initiated an investigation and analysis of this issue. A search of existing warranty data in April, 2014 disclosed no warranty events, but a search of customer complaints disclosed one complaint, which referenced an event similar to the initial report, i.e., an FXDL model motorcycle fitted with a non-Harley-Davidson exhaust system, operated on a chassis dynamometer.

During May, testing was initiated to attempt to re-create this condition.

During May and June, the RIC met to review test and field data information. The testing indicated that this condition could potentially occur both on the road as well as on the dynamometer, that a non-Harley-Davidson exhaust system was not necessary to create the condition, but could enhance it, and that the production Electronic Control Module calibration was not able to create the condition, as an engine speed of 5800 rpm or greater (production calibration includes a 5600 rpm rev limiter), was required to create the condition.

Another review of the warranty and complaint databases in June revealed a total of four events, all of which occurred on motorcycles believed to be fitted with non-Harley-Davidson exhaust systems and ECMs with higher than production engine speed rev limit calibrations. There were no reported crashes or injuries.

On 6/19/14, the RIC completed its review and analysis, and referred the issue to executive management.

On 6/27/14, upon review of the results of the RIC’s investigation and analysis, Harley-Davidson’s executive management made its determination that a safety related defect existed in the subject population and declared a recall to remedy the issue.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM TO REMEDY THE DEFECT:

Authorized Harley-Davidson dealers will replace the engine mount bracket assembly and ignition switch knob on the affected motorcycles with the components provided in the recall kit.

HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTOR COMPANY PRE-NOTIFICATION REMEDY REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM:

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 577.11(e), Harley-Davidson requests that it be exempt from providing notification of a reimbursement plan. All of the affected products are covered by the manufacturer’s limited warranty. Accordingly, no person would be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to § 573.13.

DEALER AND OWNER NOTIFICATION:

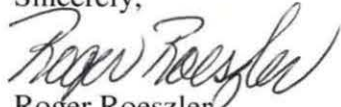
Harley-Davidson expects to notify its dealer network during the week of 7/7/2014 and owners the week of 7/21/2014.

PART 577 NOTICE LETTER:

A draft of the owner notification letter is attached.

Please advise the undersigned of the campaign number assigned by ODI to this recall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roger Roeszler".

Roger Roeszler
Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc.

Recall 0158

Enclosure (Draft Part 577 Owner Letter)