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By Recall Mangement Division at 7:33 am, Jul 10, 2014

NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.

Corporate Headquarters One Nissan Way Franklin, TN 37068

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Telephone: 615.725.1000



July 9, 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 recall campaign will be initiated and your office provided with the notices. Nissan plans to begin notifying 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. <u>Vehicles Potentially Involved:</u>

Certain 2014 Model Year Nissan Frontier Crew Cab vehicles manufactured from June 11, 2014 through June 26, 2014. No other Nissan vehicles are affected because the issue subject to this campaign is a result of an isolated assembly process error unique to the Frontier Crew Cab model that has since been corrected.

The lock pillar supplier is:

Tower Automotive 6305 St. Louis Street Meridian, MS. 39307

Phone (601)678-4030

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 1,319 Model Year 2014 Nissan Frontier Crew Cab vehicles

### 4. <u>Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect:</u>

Unknown

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

Due to a supplier assembly process issue that has since been corrected, on some of the potentially affected vehicles, an out-of-specification anchor nut was installed on the weld nut plate where the rear seat belt anchor is attached. As a result, the seat belt anchor bolt may not be attached as designed, which may increase a risk of an injury in a crash.

### 6. <u>Chronology of Principal Events</u>

June 19, 2014 – During installation of the bolt for the rear seat belt anchor at the plant, a loose bolt was identified that could not be tightened properly. Upon further inspection, it appeared that the anchor nut installed on the weld plate where the seat belt anchor is attached may have been of an incorrect size. Nissan immediately initiated a yard hold and began an investigation into this issue.

In addition, Nissan notified the weld plate supplier, as it appeared that an out-of-specification nut may have been installed on the weld plate during assembly by the supplier.

June 26, 2014 - Nissan concluded a yard audit that included a borescope inspection of the vehicles to determine if any additional vehicles manufactured during the time window identified by the supplier contained incorrect anchor nuts. The yard audit of 445 vehicles identified 52 vehicles within the time window identified by the supplier with incorrect weld nuts installed.

Concurrently, Nissan also assessed the effect of an out-of-specification anchor nut on crash performance.

July 2, 2014 - Nissan initiated a dealer inspection to determine whether any subject vehicles in dealer inventory contained an incorrect anchor nut.

The inspection identified 10 vehicles in dealer inventory manufactured during the timeframe identified by the supplier that contained the subject incorrect anchor nut.

July 7, 2014 – Based on inspection results and engineering analyses, Nissan determined that a safety related defect exists and a recall campaign will be conducted.

#### 7. Description of Corrective Action:

Nissan will supplement the corrective action as soon as it is finalized.

#### 8. Copy of Notices:

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