

**Part 573 Safety Recall Report****15V-053****Manufacturer Name :** Brammo, Inc.**Submission Date :** JAN 28,2015**NHTSA Recall No. :** 15V-053**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Brammo, Inc.

Address : 300 W. Valley View Rd.  
Talent OR 97540

Company phone : 541-482-9555

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 149

Estimated percentage with defect : 100

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle : 2013-2014 Brammo Empulse / Empulse R

Vehicle Type : MOTORCYCLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Empulse and Empulse R electric motorcycles

Production Dates : NOV 19, 2012 - JUL 08, 2014

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : 51RUB5563DA000013

End : 51RUB5567ET000831

 Not sequential VINs**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : If the gearbox is cold (below 10 degrees C), the increase in oil viscosity does not allow oil to properly drain from the breather tube, causing oil to leak out of the breather tube if the gearbox is used at high RPM. Once the oil leaves the breather tube, it can then be transported by air flow over the moving vehicle to the rear fender and tire. If the oil reaches the rear tire, it could cause a loss of control of the bike.

Description of the Safety Risk : If oil reaches the rear tire, it could cause a loss of control of the bike.

Description of the Cause : Below 10 degrees C the oil's viscosity increases. If the gearbox is turned at high enough RPM (5000 RPM or greater) while the oil is cold, can cause the gearbox to force the oil into the breather tube. If enough oil gets into the breather tube, it could reach the top of the tube.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The rider (while driving) would be unaware of any issues ahead of time. This only occurs if the bike is cold (below 10 degrees C) and not have a chance to warm up before using bike at high RPMs. If the gearbox is above 10 degrees C, there is no issue. Running the bike at lower RPMs (less than 4000 RPM) initially until warm will prevent this issue.

**Supplier Identification :****Component Manufacturer**

Name : SMRE S.p.A.

Address : Piazza Antonio Meucci

1 Loc.. Montecastelli 06019 Umbertide (PG) FOREIGN STATES

Country : Italy

**Chronology :**

12/6/2013 - Problem first reported by customer. Subsequent service found excessive oil in gearbox and problem was attributed to this. The level was corrected, and no further problems were reported.

1/17/2014 - Brammo found that under sub-freezing conditions, oil could enter the breather tube. Brammo provided findings to supplier SMRE.

3/21/2014 - SMRE notified Brammo of a possible production solution to the issue.

5/21/2014 - Brammo provides Production Approval to SMRE for implementation of the oil breather solution. No new reports of customer issues have occurred since the first report on 12/6/2013.

7/9/2014 - Production switches to new part.

10/8/2014 - New report received of oil leaking from breather tube from a customer. The bike had just been serviced (no issues before servicing), so it was uncertain if improper oil or filling level was cause of issue.

11/13/2014 - Brammo designs and orders prototype parts in support of a potential field revision if it is found that oil leak can occur under certain conditions.

1/14/2015 - Brammo receives prototypes of field revision and starts testing.

1/19/2015 - From the Brammo Owners Forum, and owner reports leak from oil breather after 200 km of use.

1/20/2015 - A second owner reports leak after 8000 km of use and 2000 km from last service.

1/21/2015 - Brammo team meets and determines that the issue is more than an isolated incident that is solely related to improper oil filling.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : Empulse bikes manufactured after VIN 51RUB5567ET00831 and 7/8/2014 have the solution already implemented and are not part of the recall. Bikes manufactured before will have a new Gearbox Breather Baffle kit installed by the dealer. Brammo will assume cost of replacement and installation.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : From an outward appearance the remedy component will appear identical to the recalled component.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Brammo's production started using the new SMRE part on 7/9/2014. Bikes produced on or after that date are not included in this recall. The recall remedy in the field will be different in that the fix is designed to be easily installed by the dealer or service technician with a supplied Gearbox Breather Baffle part.

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers will be notified over the next two weeks. Affected owners will be notified over the next 60 days.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JAN 29, 2015 - FEB 11, 2015

Planned Owner Notification Date : FEB 12, 2015 - MAR 27, 2015

\* NR - Not Reported