

**Part 573 Safety Recall Report****15V-233****Manufacturer Name :** Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.**Submission Date :** APR 16,2015**NHTSA Recall No. :** 15V-233**Manufacturer Recall No. :** SR-15-003**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.

Address : 6400 Katella Avenue

Cypress CA 90630

Company phone : 714-372-6000

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 76,958

Estimated percentage with defect : NR

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle : 2009-2011 Mitsubishi Lancer

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Only vehicles manufactured within the specified production dates are potentially affected by this recall.

Production Dates : MAR 16, 2009 - MAR 30, 2011

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : JA3AU16U09U045033

End : JA32V6FVXBU021934

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2010-2011 Mitsubishi Lancer Sportback

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Only vehicles manufactured within the specified production dates are potentially affected by this recall.

Production Dates : JUN 17, 2009 - DEC 01, 2010

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : JA32X8HW0AU000875

End : JA32Y6HVXBU015412

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2010-2011 Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Only vehicles manufactured within the specified production dates are potentially affected by this recall.

Production Dates : JUL 14, 2009 - JAN 07, 2011

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : JA32W5FV0AU000239

End : JA32W8FVXBU024521

Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2009-2011 Mitsubishi Outlander

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Only vehicles manufactured within the specified production dates are potentially affected by this recall.

Production Dates : FEB 10, 2009 - JUN 22, 2011

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : JA4LS21W09Z012268

End : JA4JT5AXXBU024123

Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2011-2011 Mitsubishi Outlander Sport

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Only vehicles manufactured within the specified production dates are potentially affected by this recall.

Production Dates : AUG 26, 2010 - NOV 19, 2010

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : JA4AP3AU0BZ000124

End : JA4AR4AUXBZ005881

Not sequential VINs

**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : Due to an inappropriate manufacturing process involving the blower motor, the shaft and the bearing inside the motor, if not centered properly during the manufacturing process, may wear out prematurely. Initially, if this condition occurs, the blower motor may make an unusual noise. Continued use of the blower motor over time will result in increased noise and/or reduced blower performance. Worst case, the shaft and bearing could ultimately seize resulting in total loss of blower performance. Reduced or complete loss of blower performance will affect defroster performance resulting in delayed clearing of or inability to clear the windshield.

Description of the Safety Risk : If a driver experiences reduced or complete loss of blower performance, and defrosting of the windshield is required, this may affect driver visibility and increase the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : Due to an inappropriate manufacturing process involving the blower motor, the shaft and the bearing inside the motor, if not centered properly during the manufacturing process, may wear out prematurely.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The blower motor may initially make an unusual noise.

Continued use of the blower motor over time will result in increased noise and/or reduced blower performance. Worst case, the shaft and bearing could ultimately seize resulting in total loss of blower performance for all functions.

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

Name : Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Automotive T

Address : 3-1,asahi,nishibiwajima-cho

Kiyosu, Aichi FOREIGN STATES 452-8561

Country : Japan

**Chronology :**

In March 2010, Mitsubishi Motors Corporation (MMC) received a customer report in Japan regarding unusual noise from underneath the passenger seat. MMC started an investigation.

From August 2010 to January 2011, as a result of the investigation, MMC determined that the noise was from the blower motor (which is not under the passenger seat) and determined that the noise was caused by improper centering of the shaft and the bearing during assembly of the blower motor at the supplier.

From February 2011 to March 2015, MMC continued to monitor the field situation. MMC initially anticipated that the blower motor condition, if it ever occurred, would show up early in the life of the vehicle while the vehicle was under warranty. Customers, given that their vehicle was under warranty, would then return the vehicle to an authorized dealer for inspection and free repair if an unusual sound began in the blower motor, before any significant reduction in blower motor performance.

To date, MMC has not received any reports of accident or injury due to this blower motor condition. Given continued incidents of problem over time with these blower motors due to apparent problems with centering of the shaft and bearing during assembly of the blower motor, however, MMC decided on April 9, 2015, to conduct a safety recall in the US to assure proper blower motor performance over time, even beyond the warranty period.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : Owners of all affected vehicles will be notified and encouraged to bring in their vehicles for repair. Upon confirming the part number, the blower motor will be replaced with a countermeasure unit at no charge to the customer. In the event the fuse for the power transistor is blown out, the power transistor will also be replaced with a new one. Owners seeking reimbursement for any expenses associated with this recall will be directed in the notification letter to contact the Mitsubishi Customer Relations Department for instructions on how to apply for a refund.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The shaft and the bearing are properly centered.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : MMNA is working internally to determine the dealer and customer notification date and will update accordingly.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

\* NR - Not Reported