

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

16V-334

Manufacturer Name : Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.

Submission Date : MAY 20, 2016

NHTSA Recall No. : 16V-334

Manufacturer Recall No. : SR-16-002



Manufacturer Information :

Population :

Manufacturer Name : Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.

Number of potentially involved : 38,628

Address : 6400 Katella Avenue

Estimated percentage with defect : NR

Cypress CA 90630

Company phone : 1-888-648-7820

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2006-2007 Mitsubishi Lancer

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Includes Lancer and Lancer Evolution.

Production Dates : JUN 29, 2005 - JUN 19, 2007

VIN Range 1 : Begin : JA3AJ26E36U000204 **End :** JA3AJ26E47U017756

Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Takata has determined that a defect related to motor vehicle safety may arise in some of the subject ammonium nitrate inflators due to propellant degradation occurring after prolonged exposure to high absolute humidity, high temperatures and high temperature cycling. Testing and analyses conducted by Takata and by independent entities have found that there are wide differences in the time periods in which propellant degradation takes place. The propellant degradation varies in different climate zones, in different vehicle makes and models, and in different inflator and propellant configurations. Takata believes that the subject inflators perform as originally designed and manufactured and do not pose an unreasonable risk to safety until they reach a certain level of propellant degradation.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Activation of a non-desiccated ammonium nitrate inflator with degraded propellant may result in an inflator rupture. An inflator rupture may cause metal fragments to pass through the air bag and into the vehicle interior at high speed, which may result in injury or death to vehicle occupants.

Description of the Cause : The propellant wafers in some of the subject inflators may degrade over time,

which could lead to over-aggressive combustion in the event the air bag is activated. Overly aggressive combustion creates excessive internal pressure when the inflator is activated, which may cause the inflator body to rupture. Based upon Takata's investigation to date, the potential for such ruptures occurs in some of the subject inflators after several years of exposure to persistent conditions of high absolute humidity, high temperatures, and high temperature cycling. The potential for rupture may also be influenced by other factors, including the specific vehicle environment, the inflator and propellant configuration, and manufacturing variability.

Identification of Any Warning
that can Occur : NR

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : TK HOLDINGS INC.

Address : 2500 Takata Drive
Auburn Hills MICHIGAN 48326

Country : United States

Chronology :

On May 16, 2016, Takata submitted three Defect Information Reports (DIRs) announcing recalls of vehicles equipped with certain original equipment non-desiccated inflators used in frontal airbag systems containing phase stabilized ammonium nitrate-based propellant not included in prior national recalls. These DIRs specifically include 2011 and older vehicles that have been registered in Zone A, 2008 and older vehicles that have been registered in Zone B, and 2004 and older vehicles that have been registered in Zone C. These Zones are defined in the respective DIRs.

On May 19, 2016, based on review and analysis of the information contained in the Takata DIRs, MMC decided to conduct a nationwide safety recall campaign involving 2006–2007 model year Lancer vehicles equipped with non-desiccated PSPI frontal passenger airbag inflators. The 2006-2007 model year Lancer vehicles utilizing PSPI passenger side airbag inflators were not previously included in NHTSA recall 15V321 involving 2004-2006 Lancer vehicles which utilize an SPI passenger side airbag inflator.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Owners of all affected vehicles will be notified by first class mail to take their vehicles to a Mitsubishi Dealer for repair. The dealer will replace free of charge the PSPI passenger side frontal airbag inflator with a newly manufactured inflator containing desiccant. 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 : NR

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