

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 16V-563

**Manufacturer Name :** Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.**Submission Date :** JUL 26, 2016**NHTSA Recall No. :** 16V-563**Manufacturer Recall No. :** SR-16-006**Manufacturer Information :****Population :**

Manufacturer Name : Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.

Number of potentially involved : 82,436

Address : 6400 Katella Avenue

Estimated percentage with defect : NR

Cypress CA 90630

Company phone : 1-888-648-7820

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2015-2015 Mitsubishi Outlander Sport

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Only vehicles with CVT8 and manufactured by MMNA within the specified production dates are affected by this recall.

Production Dates : JUN 25, 2014 - NOV 25, 2015

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 4A4AP4AU6FE000033 End : 4A4AR4AU5FE062761  Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2016-2016 Mitsubishi Outlander Sport

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Only vehicles with CVT8 and manufactured in Okazaki within the specified production dates are affected by this recall.

Production Dates : JAN 11, 2016 - JUL 08, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : JA4AR3AU8GZ018470 End : JA4AP4AU1GZ051628  Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2016-2016 Mitsubishi Outlander

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Only vehicles with CVT8 and manufactured within the specified production dates are affected by this recall.

Production Dates : MAY 11, 2015 - APR 26, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : JA4AD2A3XGZ000102 End : JA4AD2A31GZ046935  Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2016-2016 Mitsubishi Lancer

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

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

Production Dates : OCT 12, 2015 - APR 27, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : JA32U2FU4GU000328 End : JA32U2FU2GU012087  Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : During initial acceleration from a standstill, or when accelerating again after either constant speed operation or coasting down, affected CVT equipped vehicles may experience a hesitation if the range switch momentarily experiences a loss of signal.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the range switch momentarily experiences a loss of signal, this may result in reduced vehicle acceleration. Unexpected reduction in available acceleration during every day driving, such as acceleration from a stop, merging on to a freeway, or turning left against traffic, could result in an increased risk of an accident.

Description of the Cause : When the range switch momentarily experiences a loss of signal, the CVT-ECU believes that the driver has manually shifted the selector from neutral (N) to drive (D) while the throttle is open. In response, the CVT-ECU instructs the engine-ECU to reduce its torque output to prevent "shift shock" and slippage of the CVT metal belt. This reduction in engine torque can directly affect vehicle acceleration and would be perceived by the driver as vehicle hesitation.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : JATCO

Address : 700-1, Imaizumi

Fuji city FOREIGN STATES 417-8585

Country : Japan

## Chronology :

In January 2016, Mitsubishi Motors Corporation (MMC) received a customer complaint of vehicle hesitation in the US. Mitsubishi Motors North America (MMNA) and JATCO (CVT supplier) investigated the subject vehicle and collected data which showed that the D range signal from the range switch was causing vehicle hesitation under acceleration. The range switch was replaced with a new one during the investigation and no further problems were experienced.

From January 2016 to February 2016, MMC and MMNA received additional similar claims from the field, JATCO investigated several vehicles in the US and conducted reproduction testing using returned range switches installed on test vehicles. JATCO also disassembled these switches for detailed analysis.

As a result of this investigation, JATCO confirmed moments where the range switch lost its signal due to a decrease in contact pressure between two electrical terminals within the switch. This signal loss caused engine torque reduction, resulting in a feeling of hesitation for drivers.

In February 2016, JATCO modified the range switch to increase the contact pressure between the terminals.

On July 19, 2016, MMC determined that vehicle hesitation due to momentary range switch loss of signal could be a safety issue depending on the driving situation. As a result, MMNA has been instructed by MMC to conduct a safety recall of all affected vehicles to reprogram the CVT-ECU.

## Description of Remedy :

**Description of Remedy Program :** Owners of all affected vehicles will be notified and encouraged to bring in their vehicles for repair. The CVT-ECU will be reprogrammed with a modified software.  
The modified software ignores the momentary loss of the range switch signal.

**How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :** NR

**Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** The range switch was changed to a modified one on the following production dates:  
Outlander Sport : 4/6/2016  
Outlander and Lancer : 2/22/2016  
The contact pressure of the electrical terminals in the modified range switches has been increased by using a stronger spring. As a result, there is no momentary loss of signal.  
This change to the range switch has the same effect as the modified software for the CVT-ECU which will be used for the recall.

**Recall Schedule :**

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

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

\* NR - Not Reported