

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

16V-593

Manufacturer Name : Mazda North American Operations**Submission Date :** AUG 10, 2016**NHTSA Recall No. :** 16V-593**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 9716H**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Mazda North American Operations

Address : 1025 Connecticut Avenue, NW

Suite 910 Washington DC 20036

Company phone : 800-222-5500

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 190,102

Estimated percentage with defect : NR

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2007-2012 Mazda CX-7

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Plant information; Hiroshima plant of Mazda Motor Corporation in Japan

Production Dates : FEB 14, 2006 - MAY 09, 2012

VIN Range 1 : Begin :	JM3ER293470100057	End :	JM3ER29L670169185	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential
VIN Range 2 : Begin :	JM3ER29LX80169188	End :	JM3ER293980215755	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential
VIN Range 3 : Begin :	JM3ER293290215758	End :	JM3ER293190238576	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential
VIN Range 4 : Begin :	JM3ER2WL9A0300038	End :	JM3ER4W36A0352979	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential
VIN Range 5 : Begin :	JM3ER4D32B0353048	End :	JM3ER4DLXB0410354	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential
VIN Range 6 : Begin :	JM3ER2B5XC0410395	End :	JM3ER2B56C0425167	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Mazda is recalling certain model year MY 2007-2012 CX-7 vehicles manufactured from February 14, 2006 through May 9, 2012. During use, it is possible that water may enter the front suspension ball joint fitting. Driving on salted roadways during the winter months can lead to saltwater intruding into the ball joint, causing corrosion, which can result in generating looseness of the ball joint in the fitting. As a result of the looseness, a rattle may occur at ball joint of lower control arm. After extended operation in such condition, in the worst case, the ball joint and lower control arm may separate.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : The vehicles may experience a significant loss of steering control, increasing the risk of crash.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning NR
that can Occur :

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Y-TEC corporation
Address : 3-74, Soda, Kaita-cho, Aki-gun
Hiroshima, Japan FOREIGN STATES
Country : Japan

Chronology :

August, 2015 Mazda received the first field report from CX-7 "Ball joint separation at front left lower arm" and started the investigation.

Aug. - Nov, 2015 Mazda collected parts from the field, as part of an investigation into front suspension lower ball joint durability. During this time, a total of seven reports were received from the North America market on lower ball joint separation.

November, 2015

Mazda investigated the ball joint durability. As a result, it found that the durability might be lower than Mazda's estimation. For this reason, Mazda continued the investigation.

March, 2016 Mazda considered the appropriate field action to comply with vehicle inspections and/or maintenance schedules of all global markets.

August 3, 2016 Continuous use with looseness and abnormal noise at the front suspension lower ball joint fitting and without appropriate maintenance may lead to ball joint separation. This results in significant loss of steering control and increases the safety risk. Therefore, Mazda decided to conduct a recall for MY 2007-2012 CX-7 vehicles.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Owners of record will be notified of this issue and instructed to take their vehicles to a Mazda dealer for repair. The repair will be to replace the lower control arms (both left and right) with the modified control arms. The repair will be performed free of charge to vehicle owners.

Mazda is considering to implement the field remedy for this recall

campaign in the following phases.

First, Mazda will notify all vehicle owners that a recall campaign will be conducted, and secondly, we will re-notify them to have the remedy performed when the repair parts are available.

Mazda also plans to prioritize the affected vehicles by age and area of current registration, focusing first on older vehicles in states where salt is used for ice control in the winter months. Our current plan is:

Priority1; MY 2007-2008 vehicles registered in nationwide and MY 2009-2011 vehicles currently registered in US salt states (Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, District Of Columbia, Virginia)

Priority2; All remaining vehicles.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

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

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : A draft of the planned owner letter will be provided when it becomes available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : SEP 30, 2016 - SEP 30, 2016

Planned Owner Notification Date : OCT 10, 2016 - OCT 10, 2016

* NR - Not Reported