
NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.

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NISSAN

January 21, 2016

Mr. Frank S. Borris II
Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-210)
Room W48-302
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Borris:

We are transmitting the enclosed Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573. A voluntary recall campaign will be initiated and your office provided with the notices. This recall will supersede recalls 14V-565 and 15V-116, consolidate the affected vehicle populations and provide a new remedy. Nissan will notify dealers on January 22, 2016 and will re-notify all affected owners from the previous two recalls (including those that received the previous remedy) within 60 days.

As some vehicles may no longer be under warranty, we plan to put a statement in the Part 577 owner notification concerning reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy.

Very Truly,



Derek Latta
Manager,
Technical Compliance

Encl.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan North America, Inc.

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Certain 2013-2015 Model Year Nissan Altima vehicles manufactured in the Smyrna, TN and Canton, MS plants from March 6, 2012 to December 31, 2014.

The hood latch assembly supplier is:

Intier Automotive, Inc.
141 Staffern Drive
Concord, Ontario L4K 2R2

Tel: (905) 669-5640

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 846,000 Nissan Altima vehicles.

Less than approximately 3,000 owners subject to the previous recalls had their hood latches replaced. Those owners will be included in this recall because their vehicles may have been serviced with a pre-countermeasure hood latch.

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect:

Unknown

5. Description of the Defect:

Due to a manufacturing error at the Tier 3 supplier, the e-coat plating may not have been properly applied to the hood latch assembly in some of the subject vehicles resulting in possible poor paint adhesion to the latch. As a result, the paint may flake off leaving bare metal exposed, increasing the risk of corrosion in the affected area. Over time, corrosion may create mechanical binding that could cause the secondary hood latch to remain in

the open position after the hood is opened and then closed. If the primary hood latch is released and the vehicle is driven while the secondary hood latch is in the open position, the secondary hood latch may not hold the hood closed as designed while the vehicle is in motion. If this condition occurs, the hood may open while driving and obscure the driver's vision, increasing the risk of a crash.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

This report consolidates the affected vehicle populations and updates the remedy for previously report recalls 14V-565 and 15V-116. The chronology of principal events related to the consolidated campaigns is unchanged and is attached separately for reference.

The remedy for 14V-565 and 15V-116 was inspection of the hood latch for proper operation, making adjustments as needed, and cleaning and conditioning the latch joint by applying lubricant. Nissan continued to monitor the effectiveness of the campaign repair in the field and consider long term durability effects. Upon further consideration, it appeared that if the lubricant was not applied evenly and consistently, the long term durability of the repair may not be effective. Based on engineering judgment, Nissan decided to replace the hood latch assembly in order to provide a more robust, long term repair.

Accordingly, on January 13, 2016, Nissan decided to recall the affected vehicles to replace the hood latch assembly with a new one that has improved anticorrosion coating. This remedy will apply to all subject vehicles, including those that received the previous remedy.

7. Description of Corrective Action:

Nissan will re-notify all affected owners (including those that received the previous remedy under 14V-565 and 15V-116) within 60 days. The hood latch in the subject vehicles will be replaced with a new one, even if the customer received a new latch as part of the repair for the previous recall. This repair will be offered at no charge to the customer.

8. Copy of Notices:

Copies of all notices will be provided to NHTSA as they become available.