

NISSAN GROUP
OF NORTH AMERICA



Nissan North America, Inc.

One Nissan Way
Franklin, TN 37067

Mailing Address:
PO Box 685001
Franklin, TN 37068

July 17, 2017

Mr. Jeff Giuseppe
Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
Room W48-302
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Giuseppe:

We are transmitting the enclosed Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573.

TK Holdings Inc. ("Takata") has reported to NHTSA (Defect Information Report 17E-034) that a specific type of Takata PSDI-5 inflator that contains calcium sulfate desiccant, including such inflators supplied to Nissan, may contain a safety defect. Nissan will be conducting a voluntary safety recall campaign to recall the subject inflators. Nissan plans to notify dealers on July 21, 2017 and issue an Interim Notification to owners within 60 days.

Very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derek Latta".

Derek Latta
Manager,
Technical Compliance

Encl.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan Mexicana, S.A, De C.V., Aguascalientes plant
Nissan Mexicana, S.A, De C.V., Civac plant

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Model Year 2007-2011 Nissan Versa Sedan and Model Year 2007-2012 Nissan Versa Hatchback vehicles manufactured at the Aguascalientes and Civac, Mexico plants containing Takata driver air bag inflators shown in the table below.

<u>Make/Model</u>	<u>Dates of Manufacture</u>
MY 2007-2011 Nissan Versa Sedan	November 21, 2006 (start of production) to July 2, 2011 (end of production)
MY 2007-2012 Nissan Versa Hatchback	April 26, 2006 (start of production) to December 18, 2012 (end of production)

The issue is unique to a specific type of Takata PSDI-5 inflator that contains calcium sulfate desiccant. No other Nissan vehicles are equipped with this specific inflator type. All other desiccated Takata inflators in Nissan vehicles contain a subsequent generation desiccant and are not subject to any recalls. **Please see Takata Defect Information Report 17E-034 for additional information.**

The name and address of the driver air bag inflator supplier is:

TK HOLDINGS INC.
2500 Takata Drive
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

Brian Catlin
Vice President, Quality
(248) 340-7628

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 515,394 vehicles are affected.

<u>Make/Model</u>	<u>Vehicles Affected</u>
MY 2007-2011 Nissan Versa Sedan	138,055
MY 2007-2012 Nissan Versa Hatchback	377,339

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

Unknown.

As of June 28, 2017, Takata has conducted evaluations of 895 Nissan PSDI-5 driver air bag inflators with calcium sulfate returned from the field. The Nissan field returned inflators have had zero ruptures in ballistic test deployments and one Nissan inflator exhibited an elevated internal pressure during the deployment testing.

5. Description of the Defect:

According to Takata Defect Information Report 17E-034, some of the Nissan inflators analyzed within the population show a pattern of propellant density reduction over time that may predict a future risk of inflator rupture.

Based upon Takata's investigation to date, the potential for such ruptures may occur in some of the subject inflators after several years of exposure to persistent conditions of high absolute humidity. In the event of an inflator rupture, metal fragments could pass through the air bag cushion material, which may result in injury or death to vehicle occupants.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

Please see Takata Defect Information Report 17E-034 for additional information.

March 2016 – In consultation with NHTSA, Nissan initiated a special parts collection activity in Florida to recover in-use driver airbag inflators that use calcium sulfate as a desiccant from specific Model Year Versa vehicles. Recovered inflators were sent to Takata for testing.

April 2016 through January 2017 – During this time period, returned Nissan inflators were subjected to live dissections, including propellant analysis (chemical and dimensional), as well as ballistic testing. Periodic interim reports were provided to Nissan and NHTSA during this collection activity.

January 2017 - Field return data from the Nissan inflators tested to date was reviewed with Nissan and NHTSA.

March 2017 through June 2017 – Takata performed testing on inflators recovered from vehicles manufactured by another OEM to gather additional data.

Throughout this investigation process, Nissan remained in regular contact with NHTSA to maintain alignment on the evaluation process for the subject inflators. July 7, 2017 – Takata submitted Defect Information Report 17E-034.

July 10, 2017 - Upon consultation with NHTSA and out of abundance of caution, Nissan decided to conduct a safety recall on the subject vehicles to address the potential defect identified by Takata.

Description of Corrective Action:

Nissan will issue an Interim Notification to vehicle owners by first class mail within 60 days. Dealers will be notified on July 21, 2017. Parts availability is currently under study. However, the remedy will be to replace the subject inflator with a new one manufactured by a different supplier, at no cost to owners for parts or labor.

Your office will be provided with the interim Part 577 owner notification.

8. Copy of Notices:

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