

**NISSAN GROUP  
OF NORTH AMERICA**



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**Nissan North America, Inc.**

One Nissan Way  
Franklin, TN 37067

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 685001  
Franklin, TN 37068

September 14, 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. A voluntary recall campaign will be initiated and your office provided with the notices. Nissan plans to notify dealers on September 15, 2017 and will notify all affected owners beginning October 30, 2017 to bring their vehicle into a Nissan dealer.

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 Motor Co., Ltd. Tochigi plant

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Certain Infiniti Q50 and Q50 Hybrid vehicles listed in the table below.

<b><u>Make/Model</u></b>	<b><u>Dates of Manufacture</u></b>
MY 2017 Infiniti Q50	December 22, 2016 to January 19, 2017
MY 2017 Infiniti Q50 Hybrid	December 28, 2016 to January 9, 2017

The issue is unique to the subject vehicles that have been equipped with Daicel driver air bag inflators produced during a specific time period.

The name and address of the inflator supplier is:

Daicel Corporation  
805 Umaba Ibogawa-cho, Tatsuno-shi, Hyogo  
Japan 671-1681

Hidenobu Kurokawa  
+81-791-72-5411  
hd\_kurokawa@jp.daicel.com

The name, description and part number of the recalled component is below.

<b><u>Part Name</u></b>	<b><u>Part Description</u></b>	<b><u>Part Number</u></b>
AIR BAG INFLATOR KIT	INFLATOR KIT-AIR BAG, DRIVER	K85607993D

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 814 vehicles are affected.

<b><u>Make/Model</u></b>	<b><u>Vehicles Affected</u></b>
MY 2017 Infiniti Q50	810
MY 2017 Infiniti Q50 Hybrid	4

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

Unknown.

5. Description of the Defect:

The driver air bags in the subject vehicles may have been equipped with out-of-specification inflators manufactured by Daicel. Specifically, the inflators may contain insufficient welds between the (second stage) initiator collar and closure plate which could cause a crack to form along the weld during deployment, allowing gas to escape from the initiator housing. As a result, affected driver air bag assemblies may not deploy properly in the event of a crash, which can increase the risk of injury to the front driver seat occupant.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

April 2017 – Nissan received a report from its supplier (Nihon Plast) regarding an improper air bag deployment during a low temperature test (-40 degrees Celsius). An investigation into this test result revealed a crack in the subject inflator welding. Based on this result, Nissan requested that Nihon Plast contain the affected parts while an investigation to determine the root cause was conducted.

May 2017 – Nissan held meetings with the affected suppliers (Nihon Plast and Daicel) to identify the root cause of the weld issue and subject inflator production range. A supplier process audit identified insufficient cleaning and inspection of the weld jig resulted in mis-alignment of the closure plate and poor laser welding.

During this time, Nissan was not aware of any incidents that were attributable to the subject condition.

June 2017 through July 2017 – Nissan requested that Daicel conduct duplication testing to understand the mechanism of incident and further study this issue. A parts collection activity was also conducted to analyze sample parts.

Nissan met with Daicel to review the test results and the preliminary findings concerning the inflator's welding strength.

August 2017 - Nissan validated the root cause of the affected vehicle range in accordance with the supplier's information and production data. Nissan also studied whether there was a potential unreasonable risk to safety based on test data.

September 7, 2017 – Nissan decided to conduct a recall to replace the subject inflators.

7. Description of Corrective Action:

Owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be notified to take their vehicle to an Infiniti retailer. The dealer will replace the driver air bag inflator with a new one at no cost to the owner.

Nissan will not include a statement in the Part 577 owner notification concerning reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy as the subject vehicles are under warranty. All affected owners will be notified beginning October 30, 2017 to bring their vehicle into an Infiniti retailer for repair.

8. Copy of Notices:

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