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IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL
NOTIFICATION TO NEW OWNERS OF UNREMEDIED MOTORCYCLES

This notice applies to your vehicle, VIN # 1HD1KB417AB 

June 11, 2020
Harley-Davidson Recall No. 0171
NHTSA Recall No. 18V-076

Dear Harley-Davidson Motorcycle Owner:

In 2018, Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc. announced that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on certain model year 2008 - 2011 Touring, CVO Touring and VRSC model motorcycles equipped with Antilock Braking Systems (ABS). Subsequent to the announcement of the recall, you may have purchased the above-referenced motorcycle. Service records indicate that the recall service HAS NOT BEEN performed on this motorcycle. We are writing to urge you to have this recall performed on your motorcycle and to remind you of the requirement to service the brake system on your motorcycle every two years.

What is the Issue?

If brake fluid in your motorcycle is not flushed for a prolonged period of time beyond the 2-year maintenance schedule specified in the Owner's Manual and Service Manual, a braking issue may develop. Specifically, the DOT 4 brake fluid will absorb moisture over time, potentially causing the formation of deposits within the brake system. These deposits may cause a valve within the ABS Hydraulic Control Unit to stick, reducing braking ability and increasing the risk of a crash. To again reinforce the importance of regular brake fluid flushes, we initiated a recall campaign in February 2018 to provide a one-time complimentary brake fluid flush to owners of ABS-equipped 2008 – 2011 Touring, CVO Touring and VRSC model motorcycles. Service records indicate that this complimentary flush HAS NOT BEEN completed on your motorcycle.

What Should You Do?

We urge you to contact your authorized Harley-Davidson dealer to schedule an appointment to have your brake fluid flushed, **at no cost to you**. Factory trained Service Technicians have the knowledge and tools necessary to thoroughly flush the ABS module as required.

This free flush will utilize a specialized DOT 4 brake fluid formulation, H-D Platinum Label DOT 4 Brake Fluid. Following this one-time free fluid flush, it is your responsibility to have your brake fluid flushed every two years thereafter, regardless of how far or how often you ride, as stated in your owner's manual. We recommend that subsequent flushes also use the new H-D Platinum Label DOT 4 Brake Fluid. The service will require less than 1.5 hours to perform. However, due to scheduling, your dealer may request to have your motorcycle for a longer period of time. To verify that the service has been completed, your dealer will ask you to sign a repair/work order.

Included with this letter is an insert for your owner's manual, which lists the recommended fluid for brake fluid flushes. Please add this page to your manual for future reference.

If you have sold your motorcycle and have an address for the current owner, it is important that you forward this notice to the new owner. Alternatively, you may contact us at the Harley-Davidson phone numbers listed below and provide us with the new contact information so that we may notify the new owner of this recall. Also, Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

Until this recall work has been performed on your motorcycle, you should ensure that both brakes are properly functioning after startup. Then, be sure to use both brakes while riding, as instructed in the MSF "Riding Tips" booklet that accompanied your Owner's Manual.

What If You Have Additional Questions or Concerns?

For more information or if you take your motorcycle to your dealer on a mutually agreed upon date and they are unable to perform the required service to your satisfaction, please contact Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc. for immediate assistance at 1-800-258-2464 in the U.S. or 1-414-343-4056 world-wide.

If you are still having difficulty getting your vehicle serviced in a reasonable time, you may write the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY:1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We regret any inconvenience this may cause you. We initiated this action in the interest of the personal safety and satisfaction of our customers, and are contacting you because we believe you are a new owner of a motorcycle on which this recall HAS NOT BEEN performed. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc.
Recall 0171

Flush Brake Fluid

WARNING

DOT 4 brake fluid absorbs moisture from the atmosphere over time, changing the chemical and physical properties of the fluid. These changes can adversely affect braking, which could cause loss of control, resulting in death or serious injury. Ensure proper braking performance by checking brake fluid for moisture content at every service interval or annually (whichever comes first). Flush fluid when moisture content is 3% or greater or every two years (whichever comes first). (06304a)

To ensure the brake system is performing to design, check the moisture content of the brake fluid at every service interval or at least annually using a DOT 4 brake fluid moisture tester (part number HD-48497-A or equivalent) following the instructions included with the tool. Flush DOT 4 fluid every 2 years or sooner if the brake system fluid test shows moisture content is 3% or greater.

Harley-Davidson recommends using Harley-Davidson Platinum Label DOT 4 Brake Fluid because of its superior moisture and corrosion inhibiting properties.

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