

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

19V-804

Manufacturer Name : Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.

Submission Date : NOV 08, 2019

NHTSA Recall No. : 19V-804

Manufacturer Recall No. : SR-19-002



Manufacturer Information :

Population :

Manufacturer Name : Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.

Number of potentially involved : 2,108

Address : 6400 Katella Avenue

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Cypress CA 90630

Company phone : 1-888-648-7820

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2012-2017 Mitsubishi i-MiEV

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : Vehicles in the recall population were manufactured from the start of production until the end of production.

Production Dates : OCT 28, 2011 - JUN 10, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : JA3215H12CU004949 **End :** JA3215H45HU000217 Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Due to the design of the brake vacuum pump, water may penetrate into the brake vacuum pump causing corrosion. If sufficient corrosion occurs, the brake vacuum pump may become inoperable.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the brake vacuum pump becomes inoperable, this may result in increased stopping distances, which can increase the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : Due to the design of the brake vacuum pump, water may penetrate into the brake vacuum pump causing corrosion. If sufficient corrosion occurs, the brake vacuum pump may become inoperable.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : If the brake vacuum pump becomes inoperable, the brake warning lamp will illuminate and a continuous audible warning will sound, alerting the vehicle operator.

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : Mikuni Corporation
Address : 2828, Hansei
Kikugawa-shi, Shizuoka FOREIGN STATES 439-0019
Country : Japan

Chronology :

In March 2017, MMC received a field report from Japan stating that the brake warning lamp illuminated, the audible alarm activated, and the brake pedal was hard to operate. MMC investigated the returned part and found internal corrosion in the brake vacuum pump. MMC could not determine the root cause and decided to monitor the field.

Between March 2017 and October 2018, MMC received ten additional field reports from Japan and Europe. Returned parts from these vehicles were examined and MMC found internal corrosion in the brake vacuum pumps. Further investigation also revealed that the sealing performance of an O-ring and the harness grommet may have allowed water to penetrate into the brake vacuum pump. MMC continued to investigate the root cause.

From November 2018 to April 2019, MMC received five additional field reports from Japan. These parts were examined and testing confirmed that the sealing performance of the O-ring and the harness grommet were not sufficient for all potential variations in parts dimensions. MMC began to prepare an estimate regarding potential future occurrences.

In May 2019, MMC received Recall Query (RQ19-002) from NHTSA.

In June 2019, MMC began using an improved brake vacuum pump for vehicles in production.

In September 2019, a joint-investigation involving MMC and NHTSA took place in the United States. Two brake vacuum pumps from vehicles used in the United States were examined. This joint-investigation found that both brake vacuum pumps had corrosion. These were the first cases of brake vacuum pump corrosion found in the United States.

On November 01, 2019, MMC determined that a field action was necessary in the US to address this condition, and advised Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. to conduct a safety recall.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Owners of all affected vehicles will be notified and encouraged to bring their vehicles in to replace the brake vacuum pump with a countermeasure one. The repair will be performed at no charge to vehicle owners. Owners seeking reimbursement for any expenses associated with this recall will be directed in the notification letter to contact the Mitsubishi Customer Relations Department for reimbursement consideration.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The brake vacuum pump will be replaced as follows.
<Remedy>
A new brake vacuum pump with improved sealing and anti-corrosion performance.
<Part No.>
- Old: 4641A008,4641A017,4641A032,4641A034
- New: MW400261

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Sales for the i-MiEV concluded in the US with the 2017 model year. The production change involving the brake vacuum pump did not occur until 2019 so the remedy part was never used in the United States.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : MMNA is working internally to determine the dealer and customer notification date and will update accordingly.
Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 22, 2019 - NOV 22, 2019
Planned Owner Notification Date : JAN 07, 2020 - JAN 07, 2020

* NR - Not Reported