

**NISSAN GROUP  
OF NORTH AMERICA**



---

**Nissan North America, Inc.**

One Nissan Way  
Franklin, TN 37067

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 685001  
Franklin, TN 37068

July 18, 2019

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 supplement to the Defect Information Report filed on June 26, 2019. This supplement updates section 6, Chronology of Principle Events.

Very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derek Latta". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Derek Latta  
Manager,  
Technical Compliance

Encl.

## **DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT**

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan North America, Inc., Canton Plant

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Certain Model Year 2017-2019 Nissan Titan vehicles equipped with gasoline engines manufactured from April 14, 2016 (Start of Production) to October 8, 2018 at the Canton, Mississippi plant.

No other Nissan (or Infiniti) vehicles are affected by this issue because this report applies only to certain vehicles equipped during a defined time period. Vehicles manufactured outside the above production ranges are unaffected, based on manufacturing production records.

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(s)</u></b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| HARNESS ASSY ENGINE     | Alternator Harness             | 24077-EZ00B                  |

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 91,319 Model Year Nissan Titan vehicles are subject to this recall.

This total includes approximately 12,735 Nissan Titan vehicles subject to a dealer quality action initiated in December 2018.

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

0.016%<sup>1</sup>

During the period from December 13, 2018 through June 26, 2019, Nissan conducted a dealer quality action in the U.S. market to inspect Nissan Titan vehicles for the subject condition. Nissan found only two (2) confirmed cases out of 12,735 vehicles inspected.

---

<sup>1</sup> The estimated percentage of vehicles involved with defect is 0.016%. However, 1% is used on NHTSA's safety portal because it will not allow decimal values.

## 5. Description of the Defect:

On certain Model Year 2017-2019 Nissan Titan vehicles, the alternator harness may have been damaged during the engine installation process. When the engine is lowered into place, the harness may contact the square edge of a metal frame bracket, causing the harness to pull away from its normal routing. If this occurs, the harness may become trapped against the bracket and the contact may breach its shield. Sustained contact may damage the wires and cause an electrical short to occur.

An electrical short may cause the vehicle to experience abnormal electrical activity (i.e. interior lights flickering, intermittent radio). This condition may prevent the battery from charging, and over time, lead the battery to discharge. At low battery voltage, the vehicle's electrical components may flicker and turn off. The vehicle will operate at reduced power and if the condition worsens, an engine stall may occur while driving. In rare cases, the short may result in an engine compartment thermal incident.

## 6. Chronology of Principal Events:

August 11, 2018 - Nissan received a warranty claim concerning a customer report of a MY2018 Titan no-start due to low battery voltage, with a warning lamp, at less than 1,500 miles. The dealer investigation revealed that the alternator harness was damaged, which resulted in an electrical short and low battery condition. At the time, Nissan viewed the event as an isolated incident caused by a short circuit due to a damaged alternator harness.

August 28, 2018 – Nissan received a field incident report of intermittent electrical activity (i.e. interior lights flickering, intermittent radio, and headlights dimming) the day after the MY2018 Titan was purchased. The customer brought his vehicle back to a Nissan dealer the following day and reported the engine cut off and the service brakes failed while he was pulling into the dealership. After the customer exited the vehicle at the dealer, the vehicle started to smoke and a localized thermal event occurred under the hood, which was extinguished by the dealer. The localized thermal damage occurred primarily on the driver's side of the vehicle; away from the damaged alternator harness location (passenger side) and appeared to travel along the brake line.

Nissan immediately began an investigation to determine the root cause of both issues and any potential relationship.

September 2018 through November 2018 - Investigation at the Canton vehicle manufacturing plant revealed that on certain Titan vehicles, when the engine is being lowered into place (engine decking process), the harness may contact the square edge of a metal frame bracket, causing the harness to pull away from its normal routing. If this occurs, the harness may become trapped against the bracket and the contact may breach its protective shield.

Nissan implemented a plant countermeasure on October 8, 2018 to install a protective cover to prevent future harness contact with the frame during the engine decking process. Nissan also confirmed that the subject condition only affects Titan light duty gasoline engine models due to the unique frame design and manufacturing process.

December 2018 through May 2019 – Nissan initiated a dealer action on December 13, 2018 to investigate whether additional MY2017-MY2018 light duty gasoline engine Titan vehicles contained a damaged alternator harness, similar to the subject condition. During the course of the dealer action over a period of six (6) months, Nissan inspected 12,735 Titans vehicles, and only discovered two (2) MY2018 vehicles with signs of alternator harness damage. (An incident rate of 0.016%).

Nissan also initiated further study of the recovered components from the August 28th field report to analyze the root cause of the thermal incident. During this period, Nissan did not receive any additional field claims related to the subject condition.

May 28, 2019 - Nissan's further investigation of the root cause of the thermal incident revealed that the localized thermal event had been caused by a damaged alternator harness that contacted the vehicle frame. Contact between the frame and the metal brake lines subsequently heated the lines to over 1,000 degrees. This caused the surrounding plastic brackets to melt and ignite the brake tube protective covering; causing a localized thermal event. Nissan concluded the second incident vehicle did, in fact, have the same root cause as the first incident vehicle.

June 19, 2019 – Based on the results of the investigation and potential risk of a thermal event, Nissan decided to upgrade the dealer action and conduct a safety recall campaign to inspect, and if necessary, remedy MY2017-MY2019 light duty gasoline engine Titans.

#### 7. Description of Corrective Action:

Owners of the subject vehicles will be notified beginning on July 23, 2019. Dealers will be notified on June 27, 2019. The dealer will inspect the alternator harness for proper routing and any damage. The harness will be clipped into the correct position or replaced as necessary.

Nissan will include a statement in the Part 577 owner notification concerning reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy for the subject vehicles that are no longer under warranty. The statement will be excluded for the subject vehicles that are still under warranty. Your office will be provided with a copy of the Part 577 owner notification for approval.

8. Copy of Notices:

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