Part 573 Safety Recall Report 20V-617

Manufacturer Name : Piaggio Group Americas, Inc.
Submission Date : FEB 11, 2022
NHTSA Recall No. : 20V-617
Manufacturer Recall No. : PP2ZZQ2003_GTS/GTV

NHTSA
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Piaggio Group Americas, Inc.
Address : 257 Park Avenue South
4th Floor New York NY 10010
Company phone : 949-645-0030

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 483
Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2020-2021 Piaggio Vespa GTS 300
Vehicle Type : MOTORCYCLES
Body Style : OTHER
Power Train : GAS
Descriptive Information : We have received warranty claims from our dealer network that the front and in some cases rear brake lever have extended play after a prolonged period of inactivity. Excessive play on brake levers/pedal can cause reduced braking efficiency as a consequence. The factory conducted testing and found that there was an incorrect galvanization process of the brake pipe terminals on the new Zinc-Nickle brake lines installed on the assembly line from 05/05/2020 until 09/23/2020 . The protective zinc/nickel layer used for surface treatment of the brake pipe terminals were found to have an incorrect plating process, this incorrect treatment allows hydrogen to remain inside the surface during the treatment process that releases in the brake fluid causing hydrogen to release inside of the braking system. The vehicle that are not affected have brake lines that had a proper galvanization process. there are 483 Piaggio Vespa GTS 300 and GTV 300 units affected in the US market.
Production Dates : MAY 05, 2020 - SEP 23, 2020
VIN Range 1 : Begin : ZAPMA39M3L5100671 End : ZAPMA39M3M5201582 ☑ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 :	2020-2021 Piaggio Vespa GTV 300
Vehicle Type :	MOTORCYCLES
Body Style :	OTHER
Power Train :	GAS
Descriptive Information :	We have received warranty claims from our dealer network that the front and in some cases rear brake lever have extended play after a prolonged period of inactivity. Excessive play on brake levers/pedal can cause reduced braking efficiency as a consequence. The factory conducted testing and found that there was an incorrect galvanization process of the brake pipe terminals on the new Zinc-Nickle brake lines installed on the assembly line from 05/05/2020 until 09/23/2020 . The protective zinc/nickel layer used for surface treatment of the brake pipe terminals were found to have an incorrect plating process, this incorrect treatment allows hydrogen to remain inside the surface during the treatment process that releases in the brake fluid causing hydrogen to release inside of the braking system. The vehicle that are not affected have brake lines that had a proper galvanization process. there are 469 Piaggio Vespa GTS 300 and GTV 300 units affected in the US market.
Production Dates :	MAY 05, 2020 - SEP 23, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin : ZAPMA39M3L5100671 End : ZAPMA39M3M5201582 ☑ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect :	There may be a possible non-conformity of the zinc/nickel plating surface treatment of the brake hose terminals which may result in an increase in the brake lever travel required to decelerate the vehicle. This issue only occurs after prolonged periods with the vehicle not in use.
FMVSS 1 :	106 - Brake hoses
FMVSS 2 :	122 - Motorcycle brake systems
Description of the Safety Risk :	An increase in the brake lever travel required to decelerate the vehicle can cause reduced braking efficiency that could potentially cause an accident resulting in injury or death.
Description of the Cause :	Based on warranty claims for production starting in May of 2020, the factory conducted testing and found that there was an incorrect galvanization process of the brake pipe terminals. The protective zinc/nickel layer used for surface treatment of the brake pipe terminals were found to have an incorrect plating process, this allows hydrogen to remain inside the surface during the treatment process that releases in the brake fluid causing hydrogen to release inside of the braking system as a bubble. The vehicles that are not affected have brake lines that had a proper galvanization process.
Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :	Excessive play in the brake levers/pedal after the vehicle has been sitting for an extended period of time.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 :	NR
Component Description :	NR
Component Part Number :	NR

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name :	J.JUAN S.A
Address :	Poligono Industrial Camí Ral BARCELONA Foreign States 08850
Country :	Spain

Chronology :

We received warranty claims from our worldwide dealer network that the front and in some cases the rear brake levers have extended play especially after a prolonged period of inactivity.
Excessive play on brake levers can cause reduced braking efficiency as a consequence.

We received warranty claims from our worldwide dealer network from January 2020 – August 2020 that the front and in some cases the rear brake levers have extended play especially after a prolonged period of inactivity.

Details about chronology of principal events are listed here below:

09-04-2020 Internal check possible safety issue.

09-09-202 Analysis received from laboratory.

09-21-2020 Frequency checking from Pisa university about Hydrogen on pipe brake.

10-05-2021 Piaggio & C. SpA notified Piaggio Group Americas, Inc. of the recall.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program :	REASON FOR THIS RECALL Piaggio USA has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in a specific range of Piaggio scooters as noted below 2020 -2021 GTS 300 and GTV 300 models. In the affected range, Piaggio USA has identified the possibility of a non-conformity in the zinc/nickel plating surface treatment on the brake hose terminal fittings. This can cause a chemical reaction with the brake fluid itself and result in excessive travel from the front or rear brake lever. This situation can cause limited braking and stopping ability and can lead to a loss of control or a crash. According to vehicle registration records; you are the owner of a vehicle that falls within this affected VIN range. WHAT WE WILL DO To address this situation, Piaggio USA will conduct a recall of the aforementioned models within the affected VIN range. Piaggio USA, through the qualified dealer network will perform test of the brake system. FOR VEHICLES WITH AGE COUNT MORE THAN 130 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF PRODUCTION Coupon 1: O-Ring Test: coupon that provides for the test, reimbursement of the O-Ring and the labor required. FOR VEHICLES WITH AGE COUNT MORE THAN BETWEEN 101 AND 130 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF PRODUCTION (or on vehicles with age count more than 130 days in case of negative O-ring test) Coupon 2: DOT4 brake fluid replacement: coupon that involves the replacement of brake fluid and bleeding of the brake system, reimbursement of the brake fluid used, the O-Ring and the labor required. FOR VEHICLES WITH AGE COUNT BETWEEN 0 AND 100 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF PRODUCTION Coupon 3: Replacement of brake pipes: coupon that provides for the replacement of the pipes, the reimbursement of the brake fluid used, the O-Ring and the labor required. This repair campaign will eliminate any potential safety risk. The work required by this recall may be completed by your qualified Piaggio/Vespa dealer at no charge to you for the required parts and labor.
How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :	Brake lines have been plated with the correct process and checked internally and marked.
Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :	Internal temporary solution: 100% Dehydrogenation in production line of brake line components (VIN ZAPMD310000002720) date 10/02/2020 Internal definite solution: Brake system pipes with with new Zn-Ni plating process building from new sub-supplier.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule :	We will start mailing Recall Notification letters on October 21st. and finish by December 4th.
Planned Dealer Notification Date :	OCT 14, 2020 - OCT 14, 2020
Planned Owner Notification Date :	OCT 21, 2020 - DEC 04, 2020

* NR - Not Reported