

Nissan North America, Inc.

One Nissan Way Franklin, TN 37067

Mailing Address: PO Box 685001 Franklin, TN 37068

March 4, 2021

Mr. Jeff Giuseppe 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.

Very truly,

Derek Latta Manager,

Technical Compliance

Encl.

#### **DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT**

### 1. Manufacturer:

Nissan Shatai Co., Ltd. Shonan plant

The cushion kit supplier is:

Joyson Safety Systems ONEST Ikebukuro East building 3F, 3-12-2 Higashiikebukuro, Toyoshima-ku,Tokyo

Motohiro Fujiwara Phone +81 (0)3-5904-9130 Email Motohiro.Fujiwara@joysonsafety.com

# 2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Certain Model Year 2006-2008 INFINITI FX35/FX45 vehicles manufactured from November 11, 2005 to March 1, 2008 at the Shonan, Japan plant.

This issue is unique to a specific subset of Model Year 2006-2008 INFINITI FX35/FX45 vehicles that received a (Daicel) front passenger-side air bag module as part of Takata air bag Recall Number 20V-008. As such, all FX35/FX45 vehicle repairs were recorded and tracked as part of the recall campaign repair procedure; therefore, no other Nissan or INFINITI vehicles are affected.

The name, description and part number of the recalled components are below:

<u>Part Name</u>	Part Description	Part Number(s)
MODULE ASSY-AIR BAG,	Passenger Air bag	K8515 CL71A
ASSIST	Module	

# 3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 26,156 MY 2006-2008 INFINITI FX35/FX45 vehicles

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

Unknown. The estimated percentage of vehicles involved with defect is unknown. However, 1% is used on NHTSA's safety portal because it will not allow non-numeric values:

### 5. Description of the Defect:

A Tier 1 supplier's (JSS) process change reduced the air bag cushion's folding width. As a result of the narrower cushion width, the inflator gas flow path could be limited during deployment, which could increase the cushion internal pressure. During a high temperature environment test (185 degrees F), the air bag module experienced a tear in the cushion during deployment due to the increased pressure. The air bag inflator performance was unaffected. If this condition occurs, it may increase the risk of injury to the front passenger-side occupant in the event of a crash, where air bag deployment is warranted.

This defect only affects certain FX35/FX45 vehicles that previously received a subject front passenger air bag assembly as a recall replacement under Recall Number 20V-008.

### 6. Chronology of Principal Events:

December 2, 2020 - The Tier 1 supplier (JSS) notified Nissan of an issue with the front passenger-side air bag module that was discovered during a high temperature environment test. Nissan began an investigation into the issue.

December 2020 through January 2021 – During the investigation, Nissan worked with the supplier to study affected parts. It was determined that the front passenger-side air bag cushion folding width was reduced during a supplier process change. Subsequently, the inflator gas flow path was limited as a result of the narrower cushion width; resulting in an internal pressure increase that caused the cushion to tear during deployment in testing.

February 2021 - Nissan confirmed the production range of vehicles affected by the supplier issue and determined that the issue only affected FX35/FX45 vehicles that received a campaign repair part as a remedy for Takata air bag Recall Number 20V-008. Nissan also studied whether replacement service parts were affected and instructed all dealers to purge any remaining service parts from inventory and return any remaining or recovered parts to Nissan.

February 25, 2021 - Nissan decided to conduct a Safety Recall Campaign to repair the subject vehicles that received an affected module.

Nissan is not aware of any incidents or injuries related to the subject condition.

# 7. <u>Description of Corrective Action:</u>

Owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be notified beginning on April 18, 2021 to take their vehicle to an INFINITI retailer where they will replace the front passenger air bag module with a new one. Retailers will be notified on March 5, 2021.

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 because they are no longer under warranty.

# 8. Copy of Notices:

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