

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

25V-146

Manufacturer Name : Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.**Submission Date :** MAR 17, 2025**NHTSA Recall No. :** 25V-146**Manufacturer Recall No. :** MC25-04**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.

Address : PO Box 25252

Santa Ana CA 92799-5252

Company phone : 949-770-0400

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 3,742

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2024-2024 Kawasaki Motors, Ltd. Z500 ABS, Z500 SE ABS, Ninja 500 (ABS, KRT Edition, KRT Edition SE ABS, SE ABS, SE 40th Anniversary Edition ABS)

Vehicle Type : MOTORCYCLES

Body Style : OTHER

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : The affected vehicles are certain 2024MY ER500E/F (Z500 ABS, SE ABS- 1,057) EX500G/H/J (Ninja 500 (ABS, KRT Edition, KRT Edition SE ABS, SE ABS, SE 40th Anniversary Edition ABS- 2,685)) models. The recall population is all vehicles produced from January 22nd, 2024 to February 6th, 2024.

Production Dates : JAN 22, 2024 - FEB 06, 2024

VIN Range 1 : Begin : ML5ERGE14RDA07624 End : ML5ERGE12RDA11400 Not sequentialVIN Range 2 : Begin : ML5ERGF13RDA06303 End : ML5ERGF14RDA11560 Not sequentialVIN Range 3 : Begin : ML5EXGG17RDA07359 End : ML5EXGG1XRDA12040 Not sequentialVIN Range 4 : Begin : ML5EXGH17RDA06663 End : ML5EXGH13RDA11360 Not sequentialVIN Range 5 : Begin : ML5EXGJ1XRDA06876 End : ML5EXGJ13RDA10560 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : On certain eligible units, the clutch release shaft was not properly welded between the lever and the shaft. Continuous use in this condition may result in the lever coming apart, making it difficult to disengage the clutch and thereby disabling the vehicle.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Continuous use in this condition may result in the lever coming apart, making it difficult to disengage the clutch and thereby disabling the vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : Improper weld between the clutch release shaft and the clutch release lever.

Identification of Any Warning NR
that can Occur :

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : RELEASE-COMP-CLUTCH

Component Description : Clutch release shaft

Component Part Number : 13102-0087

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : New Somthai Motor Work Co., Ltd

Address : 73/1 Moo4. Bangcha

Long Bangplee Samutprakarn Foreign States 10540

Country : Thailand

Chronology :

May 2024: Kawasaki Motors, Ltd (KML) received a report from Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. (KMC) of worsening clutch lever feeling in an EX500G. KML Quality Assurance Division started an investigation of the cause. The clutch of this vehicle was still functional, but the clutch feeling was inconsistent. June 2024: The clutch release shaft supplier reported that someone on the assembly line may have been mistakenly using "trial parts" from a certain welding machine in production. "Trial parts" are created to verify the proper setting of the welding machine when it begins production of a part. The supplier reported this finding to KML. KML decided to monitor the market for further evidence of inconsistent clutch feeling in vehicles in the field. August 2024: After investigation, KML closed this issue because there were only six reported instances of inconsistent clutch feeling in vehicles from the field, all of which was properly addressed through warranty claims. There were no reports of failed clutches, and therefore no safety issue. October 2024: KML received a report from its Japanese subsidiary (KMJ) of clutch failure on a EL400A while riding. KML Quality Assurance Division re-started its investigation. *The clutch release shaft of EL400A is also used for EL450A/B, ER500E/F, EX500G/H/J. November 2024: KML confirmed that complaints of inconsistent clutch feeling increased in the field from August to October, including the October report from KMJ of a clutch failure. KML also received two additional reports of failed clutches in this time period. KML noticed that the production dates of these vehicles were concentrated in a short period of time, which was not the same time as the assumed "trial parts" being used. KML suspected that the supplier had not identified the true cause of the observed issue. Continued chronology attached.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Clutch release shafts will be replaced on all eligible units. The plan of reimbursement will be described on the owner's letter as follows: If you have experienced the failure described above prior to receiving this letter and have paid to have it corrected, you may be eligible for full or partial reimbursement for your documented cost of repair(s). To apply for reimbursement, please send copies of current owner and VIN information along with copies of repair orders and payment confirmation to the following address: Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. ATTN: Customer Care P. O. Box 25252 Santa Ana, California 92799-5252

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Make a white paint mark at the front of the frame number.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : In February 2024, the clutch release shaft supplier corrected the setting of the welding machine.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. (KMC) will distribute both electronic and paper copies of a Recall Service bulletin to all Kawasaki motorcycle dealers. KMC will mail the owner notification letter via U.S.P.S. enclosed in an envelope with the statement "Important Recall Safety Information" printed on the outside of the envelope.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAR 20, 2025 - MAR 20, 2025

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAR 24, 2025 - MAR 24, 2025

* NR - Not Reported