

**25V-xyz
Part 573 Report
Chronology
BMW M 1000 XR, M 1000 R
Steering Damper
March 27, 2025**

On February 18, 2025, a case was reported from a non-US market of a steering damper allegedly “blocking” the steering while riding at low speed, causing the rider to fall. An engineering investigation was initiated, the parts were held for analysis, and the supplier was contacted. On February 26th, a second case (also from a non-US market) was reported, but without a loss of control. A third case (also from a non-US market) was identified during a review of all previous steering damper replacements under warranty. All cases occurred at low mileage (less than 1,000 km), and all involved M 1000 XR models.

Upon analysis of the damaged parts from all 3 cases (x-ray analysis), it was discovered that the valve pin inside the hydraulic damper had wandered from its original position. This suggested that the screw connection (valve pin into the housing) may not have been performed to specifications.

A test program (both component level and riding tests) was initiated to analyze the effect of a loose valve pin on the steering behavior. It was established that even a completely loose valve pin will not cause a blocking of the steering damper; rather, only an increase in required steering effort. The increase in steering force required by the rider is significantly noticeable at lower speeds (less than 30 km/h).

Preliminary information from the supplier’s production records suggested that the dampers from the motorcycles involved in the 3 field incidents had been produced on 3 consecutive days. Further analyses of the production process monitoring data indicated deviations between August 26, 2024 and October 2, 2024. It was also determined that potentially suspect dampers for M 1000 R motorcycles were produced during this period.

Motorcycle assembly information and supplier production records were used to determine the number and production dates of potentially affected motorcycles.

On March 20, 2025, BMW decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall for M 1000 XR motorcycles, and on March 27, 2025, additional M 1000 XR motorcycles were included, as well as M 1000 R models.