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To: Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement

May 9, 2013

Subject: Recall of certain Bosch Brake Hydraulic Master Cylinder 390565  
**NHTSA Campaign Number: 13E011000**

Dear Ms Timian,

Per the letter addressed to me on April 30, 2013, I would like to respond on what BPI (Brake Parts Inc. LLC) is doing regarding the safety recall EQ 13-001 and 13E-011 per NHTSA Campaign Number 13E011000 for the Bosch manufactured Hydro-Max master cylinders containing a fluid level indicator switch and without differential pressure switch.

BPI manufactures markets and distributes Aftermarket brake parts to various customers including Raybestos (our house brand) and private brand customers such as NAPA, CARQUEST and AC Delco. We purchase the Hydro-Max master cylinder part number 390565 from Robert Bosch LLC and distribute to our customer base. We have received notice from Mike Burrill Director, of Quality – Chassis Control, in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. BPI acknowledges that we have received 624 pieces from Bosch of the defective units.

Our records indicate that we have four different brands and finished good part numbers of the replacement Bosch Hydro-Max master cylinder that were distributed to our direct customer base. We have decided, based on input from Bosch and the 573 provided to us by them, that the defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists and is reportable to our customers. BPI has compiled, from our records, the specific ship to names and addresses of customers that have been shipped this replacement part. However, BPI does not have knowledge as to whether the part has been installed on any vehicles.

#### **WHAT IS THE ACTION BPI WILL TAKE?**

We have prepared letters to be sent to our direct customer base to notify them of the subject Bosch Hydro-Max master cylinder manufactured from July 1, 2011 through April 12, 2012 that are subject to the recall action. They will be notified that these master cylinders have a condition where the brake fluid level indicator may not properly detect a low brake fluid situation if the fluid level indicator switch moves outward in the assembly. If the low brake fluid level is caused by an external leak resulting in the escape of fluid from the brake system, it can result in increased pedal travel. If this condition is not addressed it can result in a reduction of available braking force which could increase the required stopping distance and increase the risk of an accident.

In addition, we will provide letters to our direct customers to be sent on their behalf throughout the distribution channel, including Distributors, Jobbers, Installers and Consumers, who have purchased the Bosch Hydro-Max master cylinder from BPI, and to notify them of the defect and recall action.

#### **WHAT SHOULD OUR CUSTOMERS DO?**

If our direct customers have purchased the Bosch Hydro-Max master cylinder through BPI, and they still have the product in inventory, they should immediately quarantine the parts and contact BPI to request an RGA (Return Goods Authorization). The parts will be returned to BPI and will be logged for reporting purposes, and in turn will then be sent to Bosch for their disposition. In addition we will provide customers



that have a vehicle with a Bosch Hydro-Max master cylinder that is subject to the recall with installation instructions and a replacement fluid level switch kit to repair the vehicle in the field. The letter will explain that as a precaution, the vehicle should be parked on a level surface and with the engine off, locate the fluid level indicator switch (referring to photos) on the master cylinder reservoir and push it inward as far as possible. They should also check that the brake fluid level is full and refer to the vehicle owner's manual or the label on the master cylinder reservoir for further reference.

They should then contact their dealer or installer as soon as possible and arrange an appointment to have the master cylinder serviced. The dealer or installer will check the manufacturing date of the master cylinder and if it's included in the recall, will remove the gray colored fluid level indicator switch and replace it with a redesigned brown colored fluid level indicator switch. The inspection and if necessary, replacement of the fluid level indicator switch will be performed free of charge to them. When scheduling an appointment they should verify that the dealer or installer already has a recall kit on hand. If they do not have the kit or are unaware of this recall, please call Brake Parts Inc Customer Service at 1-800-272-5372 and request a recall kit. The repair process is very simple and should take less than one half hour.

Since BPI is not a direct installer of the Bosch Hydro-Max master cylinder onto vehicles, we do not believe that we are required to provide the Defect and Noncompliance Information Report that was requested at this time. However, as a matter of customer satisfaction to our direct customers, we will record and log every part that is returned to us from direct or indirect customers and provide it to Bosch and NHTSA. BPI will make every effort to contact and notify our customer base of this recall action.

You will find a draft copy of the direct customer, and consumer letter for your review and approval. Lastly, we are waiting for a replacement part number, price and availability of the Bosch fluid level replacement switch kit to send to vehicle owners affected by this recall action.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please feel free to give me call or contact me by email.

Regards,

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