

**Information Report; 1995 MY Mazda Miata with SAS sensor unit****1. Designated Agent for Mazda Motor Corporation:**

Mitsuhide Kikkawa  
Senior Technical Representative,  
Environmental & Safety Engineering  
Mazda North American Operations  
1500 Enterprise Drive, Allen Park  
Michigan 48101-2053

**2. Covered vehicles:**

1995 model year Mazda Miata vehicles produced from July 1994 through June 1995 at Hiroshima Assembly Plant in Japan having the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) within the range of JM1NA353\*S0600001 through JM1NA353\*S0699999 are potentially affected.

**3. Number of Affected Vehicles:** Approximately 19,000 vehicles

**4. Percentage of vehicles Subject to Oversensitive Airbag Deployment:** Unknown.

**5. Nature of the Alleged Problem:**

A relatively high rate of complaints allege that the subject vehicles are prone to airbag deployments in minor undercarriage impacts.

**6. Chronology of Events leading to this field action:**

NHTSA opened a defect investigation in February of 1999, based on a number of complaints alleging oversensitive airbag deployments. An Engineering Analysis was opened in June of 1999. In August 1999, both NHTSA and Mazda inspected three vehicles and found two vehicles had a significant under damage, and one vehicle had a minor damage verified as questionable deployment. In December 1999, Mazda agrees to conduct a campaign to reduce the frequency of deployments in these instances.

**7. Remedy Plan:**

Owners of record will be notified by first class mail of the possibility that their vehicles may experience unnecessary airbag deployments in certain situations. They will be instructed to bring their vehicle to a Mazda dealer. Dealers will replace the SAS sensor units in the subject vehicles to reduce the possibility of unnecessary deployments in low speed undercarriage impacts. Repairs will be performed at no cost to the vehicle owner. Mazda is currently in the process of determining when an adequate supply of SAS sensor units will be available to permit the start of the field campaign. Mazda will notify NHTSA as soon as a firm schedule is available.

**8. Copies of Owner Notifications and Dealer Communications:**

A copy of these notification letters will be provided as soon as they are available.