



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 31, 2011

MR. JAN URBAHN
GENERAL MANAGER, SAFETY ENGINEERING
AND INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS
BMW OF NORTH AMERICA, LLC
PO BOX 1227
WESTWOOD, NJ 07675-1227

NVS-215dgl
11V-438

SUBJECT: REAR LAMPS IN BODY PANEL

DEAR MR. URBAHN:

This letter serves to acknowledge BMW of North America, LLC's (BMW) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall campaign which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years: **Mfg's Report Date:** August 25, 2011
BMW/325I/2002-2005
BMW/325XI/2002-2005
BMW/330I/2002-2005
BMW/330XI/2002-2005

NHTSA Campaign Number: 11V-438

Components: EXTERIOR LIGHTING: BRAKE LIGHTS
EXTERIOR LIGHTING: TAIL LIGHTS
EXTERIOR LIGHTING: TURN SIGNAL

Potential Number of Units Affected: 241,000

Summary:

BMW IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2002-2005 325I, 325XI, 330I, AND 330XI VEHICLES MANUFACTURED FROM SEPTEMBER 1, 2001, THROUGH MARCH 1, 2005. OVER TIME, RESISTANCE IN THE ELECTRICAL CONTACTS MAY CAUSE ONE OR MORE REAR LAMP FUNCTIONS (TAIL LIGHT, BRAKE LIGHT, AND/OR TURN-SIGNAL), WITHIN THE VEHICLE'S BODY PANEL, TO STOP WORKING.

Consequence:

INTERMITTENT LIGHT OPERATION REDUCES THE ABILITY TO WARN OTHER MOTORISTS OF THE DRIVER'S INTENTIONS. THIS COULD CAUSE A VEHICLE CRASH WITHOUT WARNING.

Remedy:

BMW WILL NOTIFY OWNERS, AND DEALERS WILL REPAIR THE VEHICLES FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING OCTOBER 2011. OWNERS MAY CONTACT BMW CUSTOMER RELATIONS AND SERVICES AT 1-800-525-7417.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

This recall was the subject of an Engineering Analysis, EA09-019, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

We have received BMW's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

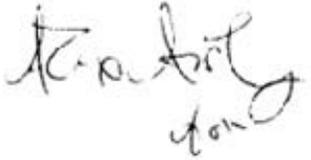
Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Delia Lopez who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-9525, or by email at Delia.lopez@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you toward a successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Willard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and "W".

Richard Willard
Acting Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement