



Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.

6400 Katella Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
Telephone: 714-372-6000
www.mitsubishicars.com

June 19, 2008

Ms. Kathleen DeMeter, Esq.
Director, Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

08V-276
(3 pages)

RE: Defect and Noncompliance Information Report

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

In accordance with the provisions of 49 CFR 573- Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. (MMNA) hereby furnishes this report, which contains details of a potential ignition/parking interlock non-compliance in certain 2004-2005 model year Galant vehicles manufactured by MMNA Manufacturing.

The recall affects approximately 73,000 vehicles distributed by MMNA in the United States and in Puerto Rico by Mitsubishi Motor Sales of the Caribbean (MMSA). This recall will also be launched in Canada and Mexico for vehicles distributed in those markets by their separate distributors.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, you may reach me at one of the contact points listed below.

Sincerely,

Kent Reeves, National Manager
Product Support & Technical Compliance
Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.
Telephone: 714-372-6362
Fax: 714-934-4242
Email: kreeves@mmsa.com

Encl.

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.

Defect Information Report

Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. (MMNA) hereby submits this report covering certain 2004-2005 model year Galant vehicles. The contents of this report have been arranged to follow the sequence set forth in 49 CFR 573.5.

Mitsubishi's analysis to respond to NHTSA Preliminary Evaluation PE08-006 (for Endeavor vehicles) revealed that certain 2004-2005 Galant vehicles, which are equipped with a similar ignition key interlock system, experienced difficulty in removing the ignition key from the ignition switch with the gearshift lever in the Park position. However, in six cases it was reported that the ignition key could be removed from the ignition switch when the gearshift lever may not have been in the Park position. Based on this information, Mitsubishi has decided to recall the 2004-2005 Galant vehicles for a repair similar to the Endeavor recall already reported on March 21, 2008, assigned as NHTSA Campaign Number 08V-139.

1. Manufacturer's Name:

Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc.

2. Identification of the vehicles and defect item:

<u>Make</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Model Year</u>	<u>Dates of Manufacture</u>
Mitsubishi	Galant	2004-2005	6 Feb. 2003 – 24 June 2005

3. Total number of vehicles:

<u>Make</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Number of Involved</u>
Mitsubishi	Galant	Approximately 73,000

4. Percentage of vehicles estimated to contain the potential defect: It is impossible to know the actual percentage of vehicles that may contain the noncompliance; however, all potentially affected vehicles will be included in the recall for correction to the ignition/interlock system.

5. Description of the defect including summary: During vehicle use, the ignition key interlock cable (which is a component of the interlock system) may allow the interlocking cam to fall forward and allow the ignition key to be removed from the ignition switch when the gearshift mechanism is not in the park position. If the driver does not shift to park before removing the key and fails to engage the parking brake, the vehicle could roll and a crash could occur.

6. Chronological summary of events leading to this determination: Following the investigation to respond to PE08-006 Endeavor Shift Interlock and preparation for the subsequent recall 08V-139; Mitsubishi investigated other vehicles using a similar gearshift/ignition interlock system as the 2004-2008 Endeavor. The 2004-2005 Galant used a similar design so a warranty claim analysis was conducted to see if any reports of a similar nature occurred for the Galant as that reported for the Endeavor. While almost all of the claims for the Galant were for the ignition key being difficult to remove while in the park position, there were a small number of claims (6) that indicated the key could be removed while the gearshift was not in the Park position. Mitsubishi has determined that the 2004-2005 Galant should be recalled to correct this potential noncompliance.

7. Test results for a noncompliance: Not applicable

8. **Description of the proposed remedy:** The owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be notified by first class mail and asked to return to their Mitsubishi Motors dealer for installation of a spring and cam assembly that will prevent the possibility of the key being removed from the ignition switch unless the gearshift lever is in the park position.
9. **Launch date:** August 2008
10. **Notices, bulletins and communication:** Will be provided when available.
11. **Reimbursements:** Owners seeking reimbursement for any expenses relating to this recall will be directed in the notification letter how to apply for a refund.
12. **Dealer Notification:** Mitsubishi has determined that this incident does not constitute an immediate and substantial threat to motor vehicle safety; therefore the three-day dealer notice does not apply. A schedule for dealer and owner notification will be provided as soon as they are available.