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By Recall Management Division at 7:46 am, Jul 27, 2012

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Ms. Nancy Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W45-306
Washington, DC 20590

July 26, 2012

Dear Ms. Lewis,

Re.: Submission of Part 573 report for 2001 through 2008 model year Mazda TRIBUTE vehicles with 3.0L V6 engines and speed control (potential interference between the engine cover and the speed control cable connector)

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports," Mazda North American Operations (MNAO), on behalf of Mazda Motor Corporation of Hiroshima, Japan (Mazda), submits the following information concerning a voluntary recall action that it is initiating.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(1) - Manufacturer's Name:

Mazda Motor Corporation with Designated Agent:

David G. Robertson, Group Manager
Environmental, Safety and Powertrain Engineering
Mazda North American Operations
1500 Enterprise Drive, Allen Park
Michigan 48101-2053

Sec. 573.6 (c)(2) – Potentially Affected Vehicles:

Identification of the vehicles potentially affected:

2001-2006 and 2008 model year Mazda TRIBUTE vehicles equipped with 3.0L V6 engines and speed control, built from Job#1 2001MY through Job Last 2008MY at Kansas City Assembly Plant (KCAP) of Ford Motor Company.

(Note: 2007MY TRIBUTE was not produced.)

Basis of determination of the recall population:

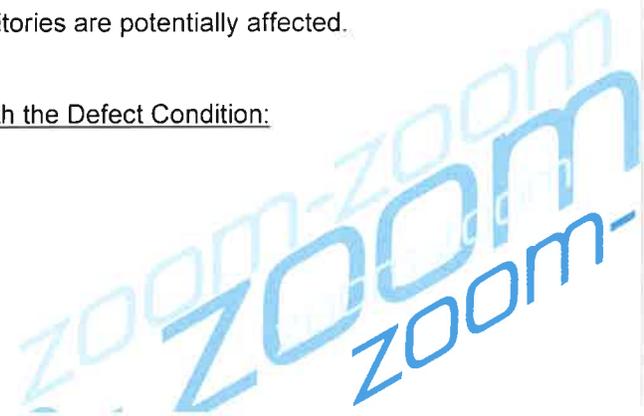
The vehicle population was based on manufacturing records of Mazda.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(3) – Estimated Population of Vehicles Potentially Affected:

Approximately 217,500 vehicles in the United States and its territories are potentially affected.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(4) – Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Defect Condition:

Unknown



Sec. 573.6 (c)(5) – Description of the Defect:

In certain 2001 through 2006 and 2008 model year Mazda TRIBUTE vehicles equipped with 3.0L V6 engines and speed control, inadequate clearance between the engine cover and the speed control cable connector could result in a stuck throttle when the accelerator pedal is fully or almost-fully depressed.

Note: Ford Motor Company (Ford) has submitted a defect report dated July 25, 2012 to address the same issue on the 2001 through 2004 model year Ford Escape vehicles (Ford recall number 12S37). For the 2005, 2006 and 2008 model years Mazda TRIBUTE vehicles incorporated an engine cover for the 3.0L V6 engine similar in design to the engine cover of the 2001 – 2004 MY TRIBUTE vehicles. Therefore, Mazda is including these model year vehicles in this report since we believe they also have potential for interference between the engine cover and the speed control cable connector.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(6) – Chronology of Events:

July 17, 2012, NHTSA opened a Preliminary Evaluation investigation (PE12-019) into potential failure of throttles returning to idle when the accelerator pedal has been released on 2001 through 2004 Mazda TRIBUTE vehicles.

July 23, 2012, Ford's Field Review Committee (FRC) approved a field action for this concern on 2001 through 2004 model year Ford Escape vehicles.

July 27, 2012, based on the result of Ford FRC, Mazda Quality Audit Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field action for Mazda TRIBUTE 2001-2006 and 2008 model year vehicles.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(7) – Basis of Non-Compliance Determination:

Not applicable.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(8) – Service Program:

Owners of record will be notified of this issue and instructed to take their vehicles to a Mazda dealer to have the rear stand-off fastener for the engine cover replaced, raising the cover in the area of the speed control cable to provide adequate clearance between the cover and the speed control cable connector. If parts are not available when a vehicle is presented for service, dealers will disconnect the speed control cable to eliminate any concern of the condition presenting itself before the long-term repair is able to be completed. The vehicle owner will be instructed to return for completion of the remedy when parts become available. The repair will be performed free of charge to the vehicle owners.

Dealers will be notified of the voluntary recall in the week of July 27, 2012.

The mailing of owner notification letters by first class mail will begin on August 6, 2012 and completed on that day.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(9) – Service Program for Tire Replacement:

Not applicable.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(10) – Copy of notification letters:

A draft of the planned owner notification letter is enclosed with this report.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(11) – The Manufacturer's Campaign Number:

Mazda has assigned recall number 6812G to this action.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.G. Robertson", written in a cursive style.

David G. Robertson, Group Manager,
Environmental, Safety & Powertrain Engineering
Mazda North American Operations