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By Recall Management Division at 6:00 am, Apr 12, 2013

**NISSAN**

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(3 pages)

**NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.**

Corporate Headquarters  
One Nissan Way  
Franklin, TN 37068

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 685001  
Franklin, TN 37068-5001

Telephone: 615.725.1000

April 11, 2013

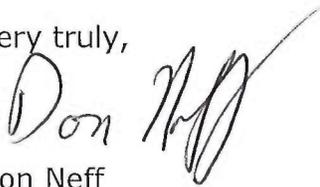
Ms. Nancy Lewis  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
Room W48-302  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Ms. Lewis:

We are transmitting the enclosed Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573. A voluntary recall campaign will be initiated and your office provided with the notices. Nissan plans to notify dealers by April 12, 2013 and begin notifying owners in early May 2013.

We do not plan to include a statement in the Part 577 owner notification concerning reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy as the subject vehicles are under warranty.

Very truly,



Don Neff  
Manager,  
Technical Compliance

Encl.

## **DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT**

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan North America, Inc.

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

MY 2013 Nissan Pathfinder and Infiniti JX vehicles manufactured from December 3, 2012 through January 29, 2013 at the Smyrna, TN plant.

The brake caliper assembly supplier is:

Hitachi Automotive Systems Americas Inc.  
955 Warwick Road  
Harrodsburg, KY 40330  
Tel: (859) 734-9451

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 14,168 Model year 2013 Nissan Pathfinder vehicles.  
Approximately 5,090 Model year 2013 Infiniti JX vehicles.

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect:

Unknown

5. Description of the Defect:

During the front brake torque member casting process, molten iron overflowed from one mold into another mold. This overflow material partially filled the mold cavities and began to cool. Then, when hot iron was poured into the remaining opening in the cavities, it did not fuse properly with the overflow material due to temperature variance leaving a "cold shut" condition. This condition caused a structural weakness in the part which can lead to premature failure and cracking.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

March 1, 2013 - Nissan received a field report involving a front brake torque member failure on a 2013 Model Year Pathfinder vehicle. Nissan requested the subject parts be returned for investigation of the incident.

March 2013 through April 2013 - The incident part was received at Nissan for investigation on March 4, 2013. Nissan worked with the Tier 1 supplier (Hitachi) to identify the cause and consequence of the issue. As a precaution, Nissan initiated a yard hold on all potentially affected vehicles at the Smyrna, TN plant while the supplier investigation was being conducted.

Detailed analysis of the failed front brake torque member revealed that the casting was out of specification due to a "cold shut" condition which occurred during the supplier's manufacturing process. A small amount of molten iron flowed into an adjacent mold prematurely, and did not fuse properly with the newly introduced metal due to temperature loss. Hitachi implemented several production countermeasures, including adding reservoirs to the casting cavity to prevent overflow, in order to prevent this issue from reoccurring.

Nissan continued to investigate the total subject vehicle population together with the supplier in order to determine the manufacturing range of the potentially affected vehicles.

April 5, 2013 - Nissan determined that a safety-related defect exists and that a safety recall campaign would be conducted to remedy the issue.

7. Description of Corrective Action:

Dealers will be notified on April 12, 2013. We will begin notifying owners of all potentially affected vehicles in early May 2013 to take their vehicles to a Nissan dealer. The dealer will visually inspect the manufacturing date engraved in the driver and passenger side front brake torque member to determine if the parts are within the affected population range. If necessary, one or both of the brake torque members will be replaced with new, correct parts at no cost to the owner for parts or labor.

8. Copy of Notices:

Copies of all notices will be provided to NHTSA as they become available.