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July 30, 2013

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
NVS-215, Room W46-421  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. Timian,

The following information is submitted in accordance with National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's reporting regulations, 49CFR Part 573.6.

Zero Motorcycles Inc. has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on certain model year 2011 and 2012 Zero Motorcycles motorcycles.

**IDENTIFICATION OF EQUIPMENT POTENTIALLY CONTAINING THE DEFECT:**

The recall population of 268 motorcycles includes 2011 model year Zero S model motorcycles built March 07, 2011 through November 07, 2011; 2011 model year Zero DS model motorcycles built March 08, 2011 through November 04, 2011; 2012 model year Zero S model motorcycles built October 21, 2011 through March 08, 2012; and 2012 model year Zero DS model motorcycles built October 21, 2011 through March 05, 2012. This covers the entire range of motorcycles potentially containing the subject defect.

**DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT:**

The subject motorcycles were built with incorrect grade front caliper mounting bolts that could potentially experience stress corrosion cracking through environmental corrosion, which could lead to their fracture. Should a front caliper bolt fracture, the caliper could come loose and interfere with the rotation of the front wheel. This condition could cause the front wheel to stop suddenly, which could lead to a crash.

**CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS:**

On 04/22/2013, a 2012 model year S model motorcycle (VIN 538SM3M30CCA00015) owned and operated by Zero Motorcycles experienced a front caliper mount bolt fracture while being ridden by a Zero Motorcycles employee in The Netherlands, resulting in a low speed crash.

After this incident, Zero Motorcycles Engineering, Operations and Customer Service teams collaborated in the analysis of the bolt fracture and the extent of the unintended usage of this bolt type.

On 07/25/2013, Zero Motorcycles completed its internal investigation of this issue and concluded that the front caliper mount bolts on 2011 and 2012 Model Year S and DS motorcycles built on or prior to March 08, 2012 do not meet the intended grade specification and are susceptible to stress corrosion cracking. This could lead to a bolt fracture and a sudden stop of the front wheel. Zero Motorcycles executive management considered this information and determined that a defect related to motor vehicle safety existed.

Beyond the single internal company incident, Zero Motorcycles is not aware of any accidents or injuries caused by this condition.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM TO REMEDY THE DEFECT:**

The remedy of this defect is for authorized Zero Motorcycles dealers to replace the front caliper bolts with new bolts of the intended grade, which is not susceptible to stress corrosion cracking.

**SUPPLIER INFORMATION:**

Anixter, Inc.  
1931 Lundy Ave.  
San Jose, CA 95131  
Tel: (408) 941-6515  
President: Robert Eck  
Contact Person: Michael Deason

**DEALER AND OWNER NOTIFICATION:**

Zero Motorcycles expects to notify its dealer network no later than the week of August 05, 2013 and the motorcycle owners no later than the week of August 12, 2013.

**Part 577 NOTICE LETTER:**

A draft of the owner notification letter is attached.

Please advise the undersigned of the campaign assigned by ODI to this recall.

Sincerely,

Richard Kenton  
Director of Customer Service  
Zero Motorcycles Inc.