



Indian Motorcycle Company

**Polaris Industries Inc.
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National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590
T: (202) 366-5232
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Indian Motorcycle Company

Address:2100 Highway 55
Medina, MN 55340-9800**573.6.c.2.****Vehicles potentially containing defect:**

Model Year 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 Indian motorcycles.

MY 2009 Models: Deluxe, Roadmaster, Standard, Vintage

MY 2010 Models: Bomber, Classic, Dark Horse, Roadmaster and Vintage

MY 2011 Models: Classic, Dark Horse, Roadmaster, Blackhawk Dark, Blackhawk and Vintage

MY 2012 Models : Chief Classic, Dark Horse, Vintage

MY 2013 Models : Chief Classic, Dark Horse, Vintage

NOTE: This recall does not affect any MY 2014 Indian Motorcycles: INDIAN® CHIEF® CLASSIC; INDIAN® CHIEF® VINTAGE; INDIAN® CHIEFTAIN™

Inclusive dates of manufacture:

All Model Year 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 Indian motorcycles are affected.

Machines manufactured from December 10, 2008 through November 1, 2012.

Basis for recall population:

The component identified as the root cause of the issue was used on all model year 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 motorcycles.

573.6.c.3.

Total number of vehicles potentially containing defect:

A total of 861 vehicles that have been distributed to dealers in the United States may contain this defect. 834 of these machines have been warranty registered to consumers.

573.6.c.4.

Percentage of vehicles estimated to actually contain defect:

Indian Motorcycle Company estimates that a small portion of the manufactured units within the identified date range may have this defect. However the specific machines that may contain the defect cannot be identified. Therefore all vehicles produced within the identified date range will receive the recall repair.

573.6.c.5.

Brief Summary:

Indian Motorcycle Company has determined that a defect may exist in rear rim (wheel) which may exhibit itself as a cracked rim. The cracked rim can lead to a flat rear tire. This could cause the vehicle operator to lose control, increasing the risk of a vehicle crash.

Detailed description:

Upon investigating this issue, Indian Motorcycle Company has determined that in some cases the rear rim used on the identified vehicles may have a cross-sectional thickness that does not meet specifications.

573.6.c.6.

Chronology:

There have been 4 reported instances of a cracked rear rim (wheel) on Indian Motorcycles. There have been no loss-of-control incidents or injuries reported.

Indian Motorcycles received the first report of a rear rim (wheel) issue on 12-26-2012. The component at issue is a carry-over part from models designed and assembled by the prior owners of Indian Motorcycles. The initial investigation into this issue focused on material properties and manufacturing processes of the rear rim (wheel). No conclusive evidence was uncovered that led to the root cause of the failure or suggested a broader, systemic issue.

While Indian Motorcycle's development plan for future motorcycles did not include this rim (wheel), Indian Motorcycle nevertheless developed a test plan and material specifications for the rim (wheel) so that we might determine what was occurring.

A second report was received on 3-18-2013. The failure was reported for the same motorcycle that reported the first failure. At this time there was focus on what this

particular rider might be doing to create the issue. An investigation into the rider's habits and riding style did not reveal anything unusual.

The third report was received 5-10-2013 with no new information to help with the investigation

The final report was received on 7-8-2013. There was some indication that a severe impact had taken place and the failure occurred on a different portion of the rim (wheel).

Based on the Indian Motorcycle testing program a specification for this rim (wheel) cross-sectional thickness was developed. The rims (wheels) that have failed would not meet this specification had it been in place at the time of manufacture for these rims (wheels).

573.6. c.8.

Remedy program:

For machines that have been shipped to its dealer network, Indian Motorcycle Company will conduct a safety recall by which we will require our dealer network to replace the rear rim (wheel).

Indian Motorcycle Company is currently in the process of developing a solution for this issue. This is occurring as rapidly as possible, but the various elements of design, validation, manufacturing and delivery of the final solution do not allow us to give a definitive time when a replacement rim will become available.

Consumers will be notified with a second mailing when the solution becomes available.

Estimated date on which notifications to Owners will begin:

September 9, 2013

Estimated date on which notification will be completed:

September 13, 2013

Signed:



Date: 8-29-2013

Don L. Good
Sr. Product Safety Specialist
Polaris Industries Inc.