



AMERICAN SUZUKI MOTOR CORPORATION

March 4, 2013

2013 MAR -7 A 9:49
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF
COUNSEL

O. Kevin Vincent, Chief Counsel
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., NCC-110
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Vincent:

Subject: Request for Confidential Treatment of Information Submitted in
Response to EA12-005 Information Request

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of a letter to Mr. Frank Borris, providing Suzuki's response to the agency's peer vehicle inquiry (NVS-212-pco; EA12-005), dated December 20, 2012. Suzuki requests confidential treatment under 49 CFR Part 512 of certain information referenced in the letter.

Enclosed are two copies of a DVD marked "Suzuki Response to NVS-212-pco; EA-12-005 (CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION)". The DVD contains files referenced in Suzuki's March 4, 2013 response letter. The files contain information that is entitled to confidential treatment under 49 CFR Part 512. Also enclosed is a DVD marked "Suzuki Response to NVS-212-pco; EA-12-005 (PUBLIC VERSION)", which contains versions of the referenced files with the confidential information redacted.

Specifically, we are requesting confidential treatment for the following:

- (1) In the Microsoft Excel file entitled "REQUEST NUMBER FIVE DATA, under the tab labeled "5-c, d, m~p", links are provided in the column labeled "m.~p." to pages containing design specifications. The linked pages are marked "ENTIRE PAGE CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION". The column labeled "c." on this same spreadsheet contains links to pages containing engineering drawings. These linked pages are also marked "ENTIRE PAGE CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION".
- (2) The Microsoft Excel file entitled "REQUEST NUMBER SIX DATA" contains a spreadsheet summarizing proprietary test programs, test protocols, etc. The spreadsheet is marked "CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION" and the confidential information is contained in brackets "[]".
- (3) The file folder labeled "Item 6" contains subfolders labeled "Confidential documents ..." and "Non-Confidential documents". Every page of the

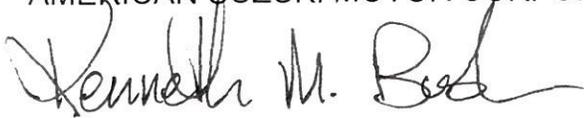
documents in the "Confidential documents ..." subfolder is marked "ENTIRE PAGE CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION".

We are requesting confidential treatment of the information described above on the basis that disclosure of the information would likely result in substantial competitive harm to Suzuki. The information described above could be used by competitors to develop or improve their vehicles, test processes, or component designs, without having to invest the substantial resources invested by Suzuki. The test reports described in item (3) are for tests conducted during vehicle development, tests that are not required for certification, or tests that were conducted under more severe conditions than are specified in FMVSS 301. Suzuki is providing this information voluntarily; this information is not customarily released to the public.

Enclosed is a certificate in support of our request for confidentiality. Please contact me if you have any questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN SUZUKI MOTOR CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth M. Bush". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kenneth M. Bush
Associate Director, Government Relations

**CERTIFICATE IN SUPPORT OF
REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIALITY**

I, Kenneth M. Bush, pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 512, state as follows:

(1) I am the Associate Director of the Government Relations Department of American Suzuki Motor Corporation (ASMC). I am authorized by American Suzuki Motor Corporation to execute this certificate on behalf of ASMC;

(2) The information contained in the DVDs enclosed with ASMC's letter dated March 4, 2013 to NHTSA's Office of the Chief Counsel contains confidential and proprietary data and is submitted with the claim that it is entitled to confidential treatment under 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4) (as incorporated by reference in and modified by the statute under which the information is being submitted);

(3) I hereby request that the confidential information contained in the DVDs described above be kept confidential indefinitely;

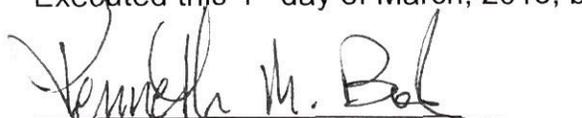
(4) This certification is based on the information provided by responsible company personnel who have authority in the normal course of business to release the information for which a claim of confidentiality has been made to ascertain whether such information has ever been released outside of American Suzuki Motor Corporation or Suzuki Motor Corporation ("SMC");

(5) Based upon that information, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the information for which ASMC has claimed confidential treatment has never been released or become available outside of ASMC or SMC, except as confidential information provided to business partners or confidential information produced in the course of providing a defense in litigation;

(6) I make no representations beyond those contained in this certificate and, in particular, I make no representations as to whether this information may become available outside of ASMC or SMC because of unauthorized or inadvertent disclosure; and

(7) I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 4th day of March, 2013, by:


Kenneth M. Bush