



NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.

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May 14, 2015

Mr. Frank S. Borris II
Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-210)
Room W48-302
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Borris:

We are transmitting the enclosed Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573. This Defect Information Report pertains to vehicles equipped with SPI inflators that are currently registered outside of the High Absolute Humidity (HAH) Regions and are not part of prior recalls.

Vehicles equipped with SPI inflators currently or previously registered within the HAH Regions are already subject to recalls 14V-701 and 15V-226. Earlier production vehicles equipped with SPI inflators have already been recalled pursuant to national recalls 13V-136 and 14V-361. This defect report addresses vehicles equipped with SPI inflators that are not already subject to these other campaigns. In sum, Nissan will have covered the population of all vehicles manufactured with SPI inflators. We understand that NHTSA will assign a new recall number to this campaign.

Nissan will notify vehicle owners by first class mail. Owner notification will be completed within 60 days. Dealer notification will take place next week. Your office will be provided with a copy of the Part 577 owner notification. We will include a statement in the Part 577 owner notification concerning reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy.

Very truly,

Donald Neff
Manager,
Technical Compliance

Encl.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan Motor Co., LTD; Nissan Mexicana, S.A, De C.V.

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

<u>Model</u>	<u>Dates of Manufacture</u>
MY2004 Nissan Pathfinder	1/6/2004 – 7/19/2004 (end of production)
MY2004-2006 Nissan Sentra	1/7/2004 – 8/26/2006 (end of production)

The vehicles subject to this report are equipped with SPI inflators, and are currently registered outside of the High Absolute Humidity (HAH) Regions and are not part of prior recalls.

Vehicles equipped with SPI inflators currently or previously registered within the HAH Regions are already subject to recalls 14V-701 and 15V-226.

Earlier production (MY01-04) Pathfinder and (MY02-04) Sentra vehicles equipped with SPI inflators are already subject to national recalls 13V-136 and 14V-361.

The name and address of the front passenger air bag inflator supplier is:

TK HOLDINGS INC.
2500 Takata Drive
Auburn Hills, MI 48326
Phone: 248-373-8040
Fax: 248-373-2897

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

The approximate number of subject vehicles is shown in the table below:

<u>Model</u>	<u>Number of Vehicles</u>
MY2004 Nissan Pathfinder	Approximately 12,725
MY2004-2006 Nissan Sentra	Approximately 250,967

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

For the subject vehicles outside of the High Absolute Humidity (HAH) Regions, the percentage is unknown.

5. Description of the Defect:

The root cause of the issue remains under investigation. However, based on information available to date, it appears that the subject front passenger air bag inflator (SPI) could, over time, lose seal integrity in the inflator body which could potentially lead to ambient air penetration into the inflator.

The effects of ambient air penetration into the inflator in areas outside of the HAH Region are still under investigation. Nevertheless, Nissan is conducting this campaign out of abundance of caution and to enable additional parts collection and analysis.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

April 11, 2013 – Based on information from Takata about manufacturing issues in two of its plants (13E-017), Nissan initiated a recall 13V-136. This recall was national in scope.

June 24, 2014 – Nissan expanded 13V-136 to include additional vehicles based on new information received from Takata. This recall expansion was assigned new campaign number 14V-361. (Nissan further expanded 14V-361 on December 3, 2014 to add additional vehicles.)

July 2014 to October 2014 – In cooperation with the investigation undertaken by NHTSA and Takata, Nissan recovered and replaced air bag inflators (14V-340) from certain areas of consistently high absolute humidity. Nissan provided these air bag inflators to Takata for evaluation. Takata evaluated the air bag inflators to determine if they exhibited a defect.

October 23, 2014 – Based on the test results supplied by Takata, Nissan decided to conduct a safety recall campaign. More specifically, the vehicles included in this recall were those currently or previously registered in the HAH Region. The manufacturing date range for recall 14V-701 was based on the inflator manufacture date ranges provided by Takata. (Regional recall 14V-701 was later expanded on April 16, 2015 to include all remaining vehicles equipped with SPI inflators that are currently or were previously registered in the HAH Region. This recall expansion was assigned a new campaign number, 15V-226.)

November 2014 to present – Nissan continued to monitor field data and attend regular meetings with NHTSA and Takata. Separately, Nissan conducted inflator testing on inflators recovered from within and outside the HAH Region, along with other OEMs, and hired a third party to conduct independent testing and root cause analysis of the Takata airbag inflator issues. These efforts are ongoing. Concurrently, parts collection and analysis efforts also took place in Japan.

December 2014 to present – Additional analysis of parts collected in Japan showed that SPI inflators could, over time, lose seal integrity in the inflator body which could potentially lead to ambient air penetration into the inflator. More specifically, air leak testing conducted on SPI inflators recovered in Japan showed air leaks in a small

number of recovered inflators that correspond to the production range of vehicles subject to this campaign.

May 8, 2015 – Nissan decided to recall all vehicles equipped with SPI inflators that are not already included in previously announced recalls.

7. Description of Corrective Action:

Nissan will notify vehicle owners by first class mail. Owner notification will be completed within 60 days. The front passenger air bag inflator will be replaced with a new one at no cost to owners for parts or labor. Nissan anticipates having enough replacement parts on hand and will address any potential short-term service issues with individual customers on case-by-case basis.

8. Copy of Notices:

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