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Ms. Nancy Lewis  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W45-306  
Washington, DC 20590

April 10, 2013

Dear Ms. Lewis,

Re.: Submission of Part 573 report for 2003-2004 model year Mazda6 and 2004 model year RX-8 (Air Bag Inflator concern)

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports," Mazda North American Operations (MNAO), on behalf of Mazda Motor Corporation of Hiroshima, Japan (Mazda), submits the following information concerning a voluntary recall action that it is initiating.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(1) - Manufacturer's Name:

Mazda Motor Corporation with Designated Agent:

David G. Robertson, Group Manager  
Environmental, Safety and Powertrain Engineering  
Mazda North American Operations  
1500 Enterprise Drive, Allen Park  
Michigan 48101-2053

Sec. 573.6 (c)(2) – Potentially Affected Vehicles:

**Identification of the vehicles potentially affected:**

2003-2004 model year Mazda6, built from January 14, 2003 through May 29, 2003 at Auto Alliance International, Inc. Flat Rock, Michigan.

2004 model year RX-8, built from June 25, 2003 through June 30, 2003 at Hiroshima Plant of Mazda Motor Corporation. Japan.



**Basis of determination of the recall population:**

The vehicle population was based on manufacturing records of Mazda.

Affected Component: Passenger's air bag unit

(For Mazda6)

Manufacturer: TK Holdings Inc.  
Address: 888 16th Street, NW, Suite 800 Washington, DC 20006  
Country of Origin: Mexico

(For RX-8)

Manufacturer: Takata Corporation  
Address: 12-31 Akasaka 2-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 107-8508, Japan  
Country of Origin: Japan

Sec. 573.6 (c)(3) – Estimated Population of Vehicles Potentially Affected:

149 vehicles in the United States and its territories are potentially affected.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(4) – Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Defect Condition:

Unknown

Sec. 573.6 (c)(5) – Description of the Defect:

In certain propellant wafers for the passenger side frontal air bag on 2003-2004 model year Mazda6 and 2004 model year RX-8, some propellant wafers were produced with an inadequate compaction force, or may have been exposed to uncontrolled moisture conditions (those wafers could have absorbed moisture beyond the allowable limits) during the manufacturing process. Therefore, in both cases, the propellant could potentially deteriorate over time due to environmental factors, which could lead to over-aggressive combustion in the event of an air bag deployment. This could create excessive internal pressure within the inflator, and the body of the air bag module could rupture.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(6) – Chronology of Events:

March 5, 2013, Mazda received the information from the air-bag supplier (Takata Corporation) that they were investigating a concern involving passenger side frontal air-bags.

April 2, 2013, we were informed of the cause and countermeasure of the concern.

April 5, 2013, the Quality Audit Committee of Mazda reviewed the concern and approved to conduct a voluntary safety recall for 2003-2004 model year Mazda6 and 2004 model year RX-8 vehicles, considering the potential safety risk, although Mazda has no report of this concern.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(7) – Basis of Non-Compliance Determination:

Not applicable.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(8) – Service Program:

Owners of record will be notified of this issue and instructed to take their vehicles to a Mazda dealer for repair. The serial number of the inflator for passenger's air bag will be inspected and, if necessary, it will be replaced. The repair will be performed free of charge to the vehicle owners.

Dealers will be notified of the voluntary recall in the beginning of May, 2013.  
The mailing of owner notification letters by first class mail will begin in the middle of May, 2013.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(9) – Service Program for Tire Replacement:

Not applicable.

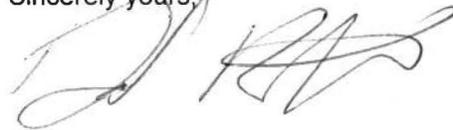
Sec. 573.6 (c)(10) – Copy of notification letters:

A draft of the planned owner notification letter will be provided when it becomes available.

Sec. 573.6 (c)(11) – The Manufacturer's Campaign Number:

Mazda has assigned recall number 6913D to this action.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Robertson', written over a horizontal line.

David G. Robertson, Group Manager,  
Environmental, Safety & Powertrain Engineering  
Mazda North American Operations