



Harley-Davidson Motor Company, 1400 Wisconsin Ave., PO Box 1853, Milwaukee, WI 53201 414/342-4680

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OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

April 30, 2004

04V-218
(4 pages)

Ms. Kathleen C. DeMeter
Director of Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
US Department of Transportation, Room 5326
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

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

Harley-Davidson Motor Company has decided that a defect may exist in certain of its Dyna, XL's and Touring model motorcycles.

IDENTIFICATION OF EQUIPMENT POTENTIALLY CONTAINING THE DEFECT:

The following XL's, Dyna's and Touring model motorcycles:

DYNA	XL	TOURING
FXD	XL 883	FLHT
FXDI	XL 883 Hugger	FLHTI
FXDL	XL 883C	FLHTC
FXDLI	XL 883R	FLHTCI
FXDWG	XL 1200	FLTRI
FXDWGI	XL 1200C	FLTR
FXDX	XL 1200R	FLHR
FXDXI	XL 1200S	FLHRI
FXDXT		FLHRCI
FXDP		FLHTPI
		FLHPI
		FLHPEI

built between June 4, 2003 and August 22, 2003 could have the defect described below. This population, which involves all production of the subject models in the time frame specified, covers 35,855 motorcycles built for the US market.

DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT:

The above-identified motorcycles could have a condition that could allow the tail light bulb to fall out of the socket, thereby rendering the tail light and the brake light inoperative, which could lead to a crash, causing the possibility of death or injury to the rider.

SUPPLIER INFORMATION:

Autosystems /A Div. of Decoma (Supplier of sockets for tail light bulbs)
345 University Ave.
Belleville, Ontario Canada K8N 5
Phone: 613-969-1122 Ext. 2292
Contact Name: Jeff Potter

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS:

In July, 2003 Dealer complaints alerted Harley-Davidson to a possible issue related to taillamp bulbs coming out of their socket in certain model motorcycles. An initial analysis of warranty data was inconclusive and a decision was made to monitor the issue through the Company's Customer Contact System (CCS). Ongoing review of CCS information failed to disclose any issue as only 10 instances of this problem in total were detected in the CCS between July 2003 and March 2004. However, another analysis run on the issue using warranty system data in April 2004 revealed elevated and unsatisfactory numbers of the problem occurring and a decision by management was made to initiate this recall.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM TO REMEDY THE DEFECT:

The remedy of this issue is to replace the Wagner (original equipment supplier) bulbs with Sylvania (supplier) bulbs which provide the proper fit in the Autosystems sockets.

HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTOR COMPANY PRE-NOTIFICATION REMEDY REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM:

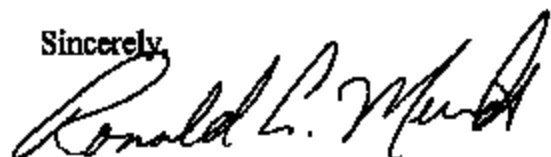
Harley-Davidson Motor Company incorporates by reference herein the general reimbursement plan it has previously provided to NHTSA for reimbursing customers for remedy costs incurred prior to notification of this recall.

PART 577 NOTICE LETTER:

A draft of the owner notification letter is attached.

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

Sincerely,



Ronald L. Mundt
For Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc.



Harley-Davidson Motor Company, 3700 West Juniper Ave., PO Box 853, Milwaukee, WI 53201 414/342-4000

DRAFT

Dear Harley-Davidson Motorcycle Owner:

This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the following XL's, Dyna's and Touring model motorcycles built between June 4, 2003 and August 22, 2003:

DYNA	XL	TOURING
FXD	XL 883	FLHT
FXDI	XL 883 Hugger	FLHTI
FXDL	XL 883C	FLHTC
FXDLI	XL 883R	FLHTCI
FXDWG	XL 1200	FLTRI
FXDWGI	XL 1200C	FLTR
FXDX	XL 1200R	FLHR
FXDXI	XL 1200S	FLHRI
FXDXT		FLHRCI
FXDP		FLHTPI
		FLHPI
		FLHPEI

These motorcycles have a condition that could allow the tail light bulb to fall out of the socket, thereby rendering the tail light and the brake light inoperative, which could lead to a crash, causing the possibility of death or injury to the rider.

Our records indicate that you purchased one of the motorcycles involved in this safety recall identified by the VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) shown on this letter.

We strongly urge you to take your motorcycle to your dealer to have the appropriate service performed as soon as possible. Should you choose to ride your motorcycle prior to this service, we urge you to be aware of this condition.

Please contact your Harley-Davidson motorcycle dealer immediately and arrange an appointment to have your tail light bulb replaced. The dealer labor time to perform this service takes less than 1 hour and the parts and labor will be free of charge to you. Parts should be available at your dealership the week of May 17, 2004.

To verify that the service has been completed, Your dealer will ask you to sign a recall claim. If you have sold your motorcycle, please forward the appropriate information about your purchaser to us. This will enable us to contact him/her and advise that person of this recall. Also, Federal regulation requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

If you had this repair before you received this letter, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of the problem associated with this recall. For more information contact Harley-Davidson at 1-414-343-4056.

If you take your motorcycle to your dealer on a mutually agreed upon date and he does not perform the required service to your satisfaction, please contact Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc. for immediate assistance at the address or telephone number listed on this letterhead. If your dealer or Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc. fails or is unable to remedy your motorcycle without charge within a reasonable time, you may wish to inform the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 25090, or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-DASH-2DOT or contact NHTSA at www.NHTSA.DOT.GOV.

We regret any inconvenience this may cause you, but we are initiating this action in the interest of your personal safety and satisfaction with our products. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Inc.