



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

February 13, 2018

Mr. Russel Brenan
Senior Advisor, Government Relations and Public Affairs
Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.
9950 Jeronimo Road
Irvine, CA 92618

NEF-150JK
18V-089

Subject: Transmission Gears May Break

Dear Mr. Brenan:

This letter serves to acknowledge Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

KAWASAKI/ZX1000/2016-2018

Mfr's Report Date: February 1, 2018

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V-089

Components:

POWER TRAIN:MANUAL TRANSMISSION

Potential Number of Units Affected: 3,964

Problem Description:

Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. (KMC) is recalling certain 2016-2018 ZX-10R and ZX-10RR (ZX1000R, ZX1000S, and ZX1000Z) motorcycles. A high impact force may cause the transmission gears to break during shifting.

Consequence:

If the transmission gears break it can cause a loss of control, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

KMC will notify owners, and dealers will replace the 2nd, 3rd, 4th output gears and the 2nd input gear, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin February 15, 2018. Owners may contact KMC customer service at 1-866-802-9381. KMC's number for this recall is MC18-01.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

Kawasaki's owner notification letter advises owners that they should not ride their motorcycle until it has been remedied, yet Kawasaki will not cover any towing expenses for this recall, suggesting that owners may incur an expense to get the recall remedied. Please correct this message, whether to clarify that the motorcycle should only be ridden to the dealership for the recall repairs or to contact Kawasaki's version of roadside assistance (if such a thing exists).

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Jennifer Kruger who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-2461, or by email at jennifer.kruger@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations
Enforcement