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**Nissan North America, Inc.**

One Nissan Way  
Franklin, TN 37067

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 685001  
Franklin, TN 37068

December 7, 2020

Mr. Jeff Giuseppe  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
Room W48-302  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Giuseppe:

We are transmitting the enclosed Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573. A voluntary recall campaign will be initiated and your office provided with the notices.

Very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derek Latta", written over a horizontal line.

Derek Latta  
Manager,  
Technical Compliance

Encl.

## **DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT**

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan Motor Co., Ltd., Tochigi plant

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Certain INFINITI vehicles manufactured at the Tochigi, Japan plant. The production period of affected vehicles involved are shown in the table below:

<b><u>Model Year/Model</u></b>	<b><u>Dates of Manufacture</u></b>
MY 2011-2013 INFINITI M56	October 15, 2009 to October 31, 2013
MY 2012-2013 INFINITI M35 Hybrid	April 19, 2010 to September 10, 2013
MY 2014 INFINITI Q70	November 25, 2013 to February 28, 2014
MY 2014 INFINITI Q70 Hybrid	November 27, 2013 to February 21 2014

This issue only affects two-wheel-drive (2WD) models with the hybrid or VK56 powertrain. The defect (described in Section 5 below) is unique to these models and dates of manufacture; no other INFINITI (or Nissan) vehicles are affected.

The name, description and part number(s) of the recalled component(s) are below.

<b><u>Part Name</u></b>	<b><u>Part Description</u></b>	<b><u>Part Number</u></b>
Propeller shaft	Applied for VQ35H engine	37000-1MG0E
Propeller shaft	Applied for VQ35H engine	37000-1MG0A
Propeller shaft	Applied for VQ35H engine	37000-3WG0A
Propeller shaft	Applied for VK56 engine	37000-1MC1A

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 2,708 vehicles total.

<b><u>Model</u></b>	<b><u>Volume of Production</u></b>
MY 2011-2013 INFINITI M56	1,594
MY 2012-2013 INFINITI M35 Hybrid	1,071
MY 2014 INFINITI Q70	22
MY 2014 INFINITI Q70 Hybrid	21

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

1%<sup>1</sup>

5. Description of the Defect:

On certain INFINITI vehicles, Nissan has determined the propeller shaft design lacks sufficient fatigue strength. As a result, the propeller shaft may experience reduced durability on some of the affected vehicles. In extreme cases, under severe acceleration from low speed conditions, the propeller shaft could potentially break causing a loss of propulsion while the vehicle is in motion. In the most severe case, the broken propeller shaft could also disable the parking brake.

If this issue occurs, the service brake and steering systems remain operational, allowing the customer to stop the vehicle. However, the loss of propulsion or parking brake may increase the risk of a crash or injury.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

December 2019 – NNA became aware of reports of broken propeller shafts in the Japan market involving the subject vehicles. Nissan Japan shared the current status of their investigation and NNA confirmed that it had no reports of similar conditions in the U.S.

January 2020 through September 2020 – Nissan analyzed the root cause of the issue as well as the potential conditions that could result from this specific failure of the propeller shaft.

The impact to markets outside of the US and Japan was also studied. Japan remained the only market to experience propeller shaft failures and only two (2) were found to have occurred in that market.

September 2020 through November 2020 – Nissan studied the potential for future claims and assessed the safety risk of a potential failure.

November 30, 2020 – After consultation with NHTSA and based on the foregoing, Nissan decided to conduct a safety recall campaign to remedy affected vehicles.

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<sup>1</sup> The estimated percentage of vehicles involved with defect is unknown, 1% is used here because submission within NHTSA's safety portal will not allow a non-numeric value.

7. Description of Corrective Action:

Owners of all affected vehicles will be notified to take their vehicle to an Infiniti retailer. The retailer will replace the propeller shaft with a countermeasure one. This repair will be performed free of charge for the customer.

Dealers will be notified on December 8, 2020. Nissan will begin notifying all affected vehicle owners by first class mail beginning January 29, 2021. Your office will be provided with the final 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 as the subject vehicles are no longer under warranty.

8. Copy of Notices:

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