



Defect Information Report

NOTE: December 2, 2016 Part 573 Defect Report Amendment: Additional investigation by Pirelli Tire LLC, and provided to Maserati on December 2, 2016, indicates that the error that caused this condition may have affected a broader production range of tire, therefore in an abundance of caution, Maserati is expanding the number of potentially affected vehicles to 1703 and amending the original Part 573 with this submission. Also please note that the tire size affected is the Pirelli PZERO All Season 275/40R19 101W tires.

Maserati S.p.A. has determined that a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety exists in model year 2017 Maserati Quattroporte and Ghibli vehicles. Maserati North America, Inc. (MNA) is providing this notification to your office in accordance with **49 C.F.R. Part 573.**

Please note that Pirelli has also notified NHTSA (on November 16, 2016) regarding this issue that follows below.

Maserati S.p.A. and MNA have determined that the above described vehicles may have been manufactured with tires that were constructed with an incorrect tire carcass component. A tire which has been constructed with an incorrect tire carcass component may experience cracking in the lower sidewall as the tire reaches the end of its tread life. If the cracking remains undetected, it could ultimately lead to an air loss and potential loss of control of the vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash. These tires are as follows: **Pirelli PZERO All Season 275/40R19 101W tires.**

As noted below, a total of approximately **1703** MY2017 vehicles with this defect have been sold or leased to customers, and thus this notification relates to those vehicles.

The information, to the extent currently available to MNA follows:

1. **Manufacturer's Name and Address.**

Maserati North America, Inc.
250 Sylvan Avenue
Englewood Cliffs, N.J. 07632

2. **Identification of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect.**

The affected vehicles consist of model year 2017 Maserati Quattroporte and Ghibli vehicles. A draft bulletin which includes the affected VIN's will be supplied when available.

3. **Total Number of Vehicles.**

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The total population of model year 2017 Maserati Quattroporte and Ghibli vehicles potentially in the affected VIN range is approximately 1703 that have been sold or leased to customers.

4. Approximate percentage of vehicles Estimated to Contain the Defect.

Potentially 100% of all 1703 units within the affected VIN range may contain the defect.

5. Description of the Defect.

Due to a production error, these tires were built with an incorrect carcass component. The tire may experience cracking in the lower sidewall as the tire reaches the end of its tread life. If the cracking remains undetected, it could ultimately lead to an air loss and potential loss of control of the car increasing the risk of a crash.

6. Chronology of Events leading to this Defect Determination.

Please note the following chronology of events:

- a. On October 27, 2016, while performing control plan testing on tires from production week 43 of year 2016, one tire did not meet the requirements of Pirelli's internal testing specifications. Examination of the tire determined that there was an incorrectly sized component present. Pirelli immediately began a check of production tires on both sides, and determined the production range of tires with the issue. Sample tires were subjected to the entire Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 139, New Pneumatic Radial Tires for Light Vehicles, and all tires successfully passed all tests. All stock in all Pirelli warehouses was checked to determine if any tires from the affected production range were present; none were found.
- b. On November 8, 2016, even though the tires passed all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, Pirelli in conjunction with Maserati decided to conduct a safety recall of the affected tires out of an abundance of caution.
- c. Maserati SpA was notified on November 8, 2016 so that it could determine which cars were fitted with the affected tires. Pirelli is not aware of any returns or any reports of accidents or issues related to this condition. Maserati is not aware of any reports of accidents or issues nor has any warranty claim associated with this issue.
- d. In conjunction with Pirelli, Maserati is notifying NHTSA that a vehicle safety recall will be conducted for this issue.

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NOTE: As of November 16, 2016, Maserati is unaware of any accidents or injuries potentially related to this issue.

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e. **NOTE: December 2, 2016 Part 573 Defect Report Amendment: Additional investigation by Pirelli Tire LLC, and provided to Maserati on December 2, 2016, indicates that the error that caused this condition may have affected a broader production range of tire, therefore in an abundance of caution, Maserati is expanding the number of potentially affected vehicles to 1703 and amending the original Part 573 with this submission. Also, please note that on December 6, 2016, I amended the Part 573 to update the affected tire which is the **Pirelli PZERO All Season 275/40R19 101W tires.****

7. Test Results and Other Information.
None at this time.

8. Description of Proposed Remedy.

Pirelli will work with Maserati to arrange to have replacement tires installed on vehicles that are with customers or remain in Maserati's dealer inventory prior to delivery. The remedy will be performed free of charge to the vehicle owner. The internal number we have assigned to this action is recall 324. Maserati anticipates having the tires available within 30 days. All customers for whom this remedy is required, and our dealers, will receive notification of the remedy campaign. MNA intends to send customer notification letters to each owner of an affected vehicle by first-class mail and to call the customer directly, to inform the customer of the problem, and advise the customer to contact their local Authorized Maserati Dealer to schedule an appointment to repair the affected vehicle. We will also be posting it on the Maserati USA website under "Services" by VIN. Because all of the vehicles that potentially have the defect are 2017 models, all of the affected vehicles are currently under warranty, and no customers would have incurred any costs to obtain a pre-notification remedy of this defect. Accordingly, MNA requests that it be excused from the requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 573.6(c)(8), 573.13, and 577.11 to provide notification to owners that they may be eligible for reimbursement of the costs of obtaining a pre-notification remedy of this defect. 49 C.F.R. § 573.13(d) permits manufacturers to "exclude reimbursement for costs incurred within the period during which the manufacturer's original or extended warranty would have provided for a free repair of the problem addressed by the recall, without any payment by the consumer." In addition, 49 C.F.R. § 577.11(e) contemplates that, upon written request by the manufacturer, NHTSA may determine that the manufacturer is not required to provide notification concerning reimbursement for pre-notification remedies because all covered vehicles are under warranty. Thus, MNA's request to be excused from the obligation of specifying a reimbursement program in this report, and of providing notification to owners concerning it, is consistent with the regulations governing reimbursement for pre-notification remedies.

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9. Campaign Schedule and Draft Notices.

Maserati expects to launch the recall within 30 days of this notification to NHTSA, as well as additional dealer materials including a draft copy of the recall campaign instruction bulletin. MNA has assigned this campaign an internal Maserati number of **324**.

10. Representative Copies of Notifications that Relate to the Defect and Have Been Sent to More than One Manufacturer, Distributor, Dealer, or Purchaser.

There are no notices, bulletins or other communications that relate directly to the defect and have been sent by MNA to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser.

Should you have questions concerning this submission, please contact me at your earliest convenience at 201-816-2638.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel E. Doku".

Daniel Doku
Manager, Certification & Compliance
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