



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

September 28, 2012

Mr. Donald Neff  
Manager, Technical Compliance Office  
Nissan North America, Inc.  
P.O. Box 685001  
Franklin, TN 37068-5009

NVS-215KS  
12V-462

**Subject:** Wheel Hubs May Crack Due To Insufficient Hardness

Dear Mr. Neff:

This letter serves to acknowledge Nissan North America, Inc.'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:**  
NISSAN/FRONTIER/2012  
NISSAN/PATHFINDER/2012  
NISSAN/XTERRA/2012

**Mfr's Report Date:** September 19, 2012

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 12V-462

**Components:**  
SUSPENSION:FRONT:HUB

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 2,417

**Problem Description:**

Nissan is recalling certain model year 2012 Frontier, Pathfinder, and Xterra two-wheel drive vehicles manufactured from June 19, 2012, through July 12, 2012. These vehicles may have been equipped with front wheel hubs that may not meet the design hardness specifications. A wheel hub that was manufactured below hardness specification may wear prematurely and eventually crack.

**Consequence:**

If the vehicle is driven in this condition, the wheel hub may break, possibly resulting in a vehicle crash.

**Remedy:**

Nissan will notify owners, and dealers will replaced the left and right side front wheel hub assemblies free of charge. The recall is expected to begin on October 8, 2012. Owners may contact Nissan Customer Service at 1-800-647-7261.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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).

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 Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at [kelly.schuler@dot.gov](mailto:kelly.schuler@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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