

toolkit, and the Working Group continues to meet to monitor the implementation of PTC and related projects. Contact: Grady Cothen (202) 493-6302.

Task 97-7—(Terminated) Determining damages qualifying an event as a reportable train accident. Action on this topic was terminated based on the recommendations of the Accident/ Incident Working Group.

Task 00-1—Determining the need to amend regulations protecting persons who work on, under, or between rolling equipment and persons applying, removing or inspecting rear end marking devices (Blue Signal Protection). The Working Group held its first meeting on October 16-18, 2000, and six meetings have been held since then. FRA is reviewing the status of this activity. Contact: Doug Taylor (202) 493-6255.

Task 01-1—(Completed) Developing conformity of FRA's regulations for accident/incident reporting (49 CFR part 225) to revised regulations of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), U.S. Department of Labor, and to make appropriate revisions to the *FRA Guide for Preparing Accident/Incident Reports* (Reporting Guide).

Task 03-01—Amendments to the Passenger Equipment Safety Standards (49 CFR part 238) and the Passenger Train Emergency Preparedness (49 CFR part 239). This Task was accepted May 20, 2003, and a Working Group was established. Prior to embarking on substantive discussion of a specific task, the Working Group will set forth in writing a specific description of the task. The Working Group will hold its first meeting September 9-10, 2003. The Working Group will report any planned activity to the full Committee at each scheduled Committee meeting, including milestones for completion of projects and progress toward completion.

Please refer to the notice published in the **Federal Register** on March 11, 1996, (61 FR 9740) for more information about the RSAC.

Issued in Washington, DC, on September 8, 2003.

George A. Gavalla,

Associate Administrator for Safety.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Annual List of Defect and Noncompliance Decisions Affecting Nonconforming Imported Vehicles

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), DOT.

ACTION: Annual list of defect and noncompliance decisions affecting nonconforming vehicles imported by registered importers.

SUMMARY: This document contains a list of vehicles recalled by their manufacturers during Calendar Year 2002 (January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2002) to correct a safety-related defect or a noncompliance with an applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standard (FMVSS). The listed vehicles are those that NHTSA has decided are substantially similar to vehicles imported into the United States that were not originally manufactured and certified to conform to all applicable FMVSS. The registered importers of those nonconforming vehicles are required to provide their owners with notification of, and a remedy for, the defects or noncompliances for which the listed vehicles were recalled.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Coleman Sachs, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-3151).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards (FMVSS) shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle of the same model year that was originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115. Once NHTSA decides that a nonconforming vehicle is eligible for importation, it may be imported by a person who is registered with the agency pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30141(c). Before releasing the vehicle for use on public streets, roads, or highways, the registered importer must certify to NHTSA, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30146(a), that the vehicle has been brought into conformity with all applicable FMVSS.

If a vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States is decided to contain a defect related to motor vehicle safety, or not to comply with an applicable FMVSS, 49 U.S.C. 30147(a)(1)(A) provides that the same defect or noncompliance is deemed to exist in any nonconforming vehicle that NHTSA has decided to be substantially similar and for which a registered importer has submitted a certificate of conformity to the agency. Under 49 U.S.C. 30147(a)(1)(B), the registered importer is deemed to be the nonconforming vehicle's manufacturer for the purpose of providing notification of, and a remedy for, the defect or noncompliance.

To apprise registered importers of the vehicles for which they must conduct a notification and remedy (*i.e.*, "recall") campaign, 49 U.S.C. 30147(a)(2) requires NHTSA to publish in the **Federal Register** notice of any defect or noncompliance decision that is made with respect to substantially similar U.S. certified vehicles. Annex A contains a list of all such decisions that were made during Calendar Year 2002. The list identifies the Recall Number that was assigned to the recall by NHTSA after the agency received the manufacturer's notification of the defect or noncompliance under 49 CFR part 573. After December 31, 2003, NHTSA will publish a comparable list of all defect and noncompliance decisions affecting nonconforming imported vehicles that are made during the current calendar year.

Under 49 U.S.C. 30120(a), a manufacturer may remedy a safety-related defect or noncompliance in a motor vehicle by repairing the vehicle, replacing the vehicle with an identical or reasonably equivalent vehicle, or by refunding the purchase price, less a reasonable allowance for depreciation. For each of the vehicles listed, the manufacturer elected to remedy the defect or noncompliance by repair, and not by replacing the vehicle or by refunding the purchase price.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30147(a)(2); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: September 12, 2003.

Kenneth N. Weinstein,

Associate Administrator for Enforcement.

ANNEX A—CALENDAR YEAR 2002 RECALLS AFFECTING VEHICLES IMPORTED BY REGISTERED IMPORTERS

Make	Model	Model year	NHTSA recall No.
ACURA	3.5RL	2000	02V119000