

## FRONT BRAKE MASTER CYLINDER / 1979 1200, 1340, AND 1000 CC MODELS

A quantity of 370 motorcycles with model designations FLH-1200, FLH-80, FXE-1200, FXEF-1200, FXEF-80, FXS-1200, FXS-80 and XLH-1000 were produced and shipped from 3/22/79 to 3/30/79 with a possible defect in the front brake master cylinder.

Mailgram ML-116 was sent to all dealers of record on April 20, 1979 advising of the problem and stated that the affected motorcycles shipped to their dealership should not be operated or sold until corrected.

Individual motorcycles involved are identified by VIN's shown on the list in this bulletin.

Some of the listed motorcycles may have brake fluid leakage through a tear or crack in the metal between the master cylinder outlet and the fluid reservoir. This internal leakage could prevent adequate buildup of hydraulic pressure to the front brake caliper when the handlever is operated.

Depending upon the amount of fluid transfer through the damaged section, such leakage may affect normal braking pressure in the front brake hydraulic system and cause the loss of an effective front brake. This fault would exist and be noticeable in the motorcycle as delivered and would not come on gradually.

Although the motorcycle operator would still have the use of the rear brake, the loss of the front brake could, under certain conditions, result in loss of vehicle control and a possible accident.

In compliance with the National Motor Vehicle Safety Act, this has been declared a safety defect by Harley-Davidson Motor Co., Inc., and the affected motorcycles must be corrected

before sale or use by installing the correct front brake master cylinder assembly. We are sending the required quantity of correct front brake master cylinders for installing in the affected motorcycles shipped to your dealership -- no charge, transportation prepaid. Instructions for installing these parts and a complete list of affected vehicles are included at the end of this bulletin. These motorcycles must not be sold or operated unless corrected.

All registered owners of record are being notified of this safety defect and are being instructed to bring their motorcycles to their dealer for service. A copy of the owner letter is enclosed for your information. Each letter to the registered owner will include Dealer Service Card 039 which must be completed, dated and signed by both the customer and the dealer, to verify that service has been satisfactorily completed.

A list of registered owners and a list of unregistered vehicles involved in this campaign, which have been delivered to your dealership, are included with this bulletin. It is your responsibility to perform the required service on all affected vehicles, including those which may not show on the lists. We are enclosing sufficient blank Dealer Service Cards for those vehicles.

**IMPORTANT**

Because only registered owners, as shown on the enclosed list, will receive notification from us, we request that you contact any owners of vehicles listed as unregistered and arrange to have them come in for service.

The parts that are removed from corrected motorcycles must be returned to Harley-Davidson Motor Co. with properly completed Dealer Service Card. When servicing a motorcycle, make sure to fill out the Dealer Service Card completely, including code 039, vehicle identification number (VIN), your dealer account number, and mark "Replace" box only for each motorcycle serviced. Upon receipt of properly completed Dealer Service Card, with removed parts, your account will be credited .6 hours for each motorcycle serviced to cover your costs for labor, brake fluid and processing.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR REPLACING PARTS

Disconnect battery.

Clean master cylinder brake hose connection to prevent dirt from entering brake system. Loosen, but do not remove the front brake hose fitting at master cylinder.

Remove the four screws securing master cylinder to handlebar assembly. Separate switch assembly from the master cylinder and disconnect brake switch wires. While holding master cylinder away from motorcycle disconnect brake hose from master cylinder fitting and remove fitting.

Before mounting new master cylinder on motorcycle, check to see that relief port in bottom of reservoir is uncovered

when the brake lever is released. Connect brake light switch wires to switch terminals in new master cylinder housing.

Reusing four screws, mount master cylinder and handlebar switch assembly on handlebar in desired position. Wipe threads of brake hose fitting clean and apply a light coating of Harley-Davidson Pipe Sealant with Teflon. Reinstall fitting and assemble brake hose to new master cylinder. Reconnect battery.

Turn handlebar so that top of master cylinder is nearly level and fill master cylinder to slightly below gasket surface with D.O.T. 5 type hydraulic brake fluid. Replace cover and gasket with flat side of gasket down.

CAUTION: During filling operation keep brake fluid away from stop-light switch. Any spillage should be cleaned off switch using Harley-Davidson Safety Solvent, Part No. 99631-77.

Bleed system carefully to purge all air according to service manual procedure.

Test ride motorcycle. If brake feels spongy, repeat bleeding procedure. On models equipped with dual front disc brakes, bleed both calipers.

HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTOR CO., INC.

ROUTING	SERVICE MANAGER	SALES MANAGER	PARTS MANAGER	CHIEF MECHANIC	MECHANIC NO. 1	MECHANIC NO. 2	MECHANIC NO. 3	MECHANIC NO. 4	RETURN THIS TO:
INITIAL HERE→									

VEHICLES WITHIN THE 039 SAFETY DEFECT CAMPAIGN RANGE

2A56366H9	3A56798H9	3G56854H9	7G56423H9	7G56874H9
2A56447H9	3A56800H9	3G56863H9	7G56424H9	7G56876H9
2A56935H9	3A56802H9	3G56864H9	7G56425H9	7G56879H9
2A56936H9	3A56803H9	3G56865H9	7G56426H9	7G56880H9
2A56940H9	3A56806H9	3G56866H9	7G56427H9	7G56883H9
2F56435H9	3A56811H9	3G56868H9	7G56430H9	7G56885H9
3A56358H9	3A56812H9	3G56870H9	7G56489H9	7G56887H9
3A56368H9	3A56813H9	3G56945H9	7G56491H9	7G56889H9
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3A56797H9	3G56851H9	7G56422H9	7G56712H9	9D57053H9



HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTOR CO., INC.  
3700 W. Juneau Ave., P.O. Box 653, Milwaukee, WI 53201 • 414/342-4680  
Subsidiary of AMF INCORPORATED

SAMPLE COPY

May 1, 1979

Dear Harley-Davidson Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Harley-Davidson Motor Co., Inc. has determined that a defect which is related to motor vehicle safety exists in the front brake master cylinder located on the right handlebar of certain 1979 motorcycles with model designations: FLH-1200, FLH-80, FXE-1200, FXEF-1200, FXEF-80, FXS-1200, FXS-80 and XLH-1000. These motorcycles were manufactured during the period from March 22, 1979 to March 30, 1979.

Your motorcycle is one of the above models produced with a possible defect in the front brake master cylinder which could prevent adequate buildup of hydraulic pressure to the front wheel brake when the front brake handlebar is operated and cause the loss of an effective front brake. Although you would still have the use of the rear brake, the unexpected loss of the front brake could, under certain conditions, result in loss of vehicle control and a possible accident.

During motorcycle operation there usually is a prior warning of insufficient brake indicated by an increase in the hand lever movement before the brake becomes effective. We advise you not to operate your motorcycle if you notice this condition.

Please contact your dealer immediately to arrange for him to replace the front brake master cylinder.

The necessary parts to correct your motorcycle are available at your dealer at the present time. Replacement will take approximately 35 minutes and will be done at no cost to you.

To verify that the corrective work has been completed, the enclosed Dealer Service Card must be presented to the dealer when service is performed and signed by you and the dealer and returned to us. If you have sold your motorcycle, please accurately fill out and mail the enclosed Motorcycle Owner Card giving us information on your purchaser which will enable us to contact and advise that person of this recall.

If you take your motorcycle to your dealer on the mutually agreed upon service date, and he does not perform the required service at no cost to you on that date or within a reasonable period of time, please contact our Service Department at the address or telephone number on this letterhead for our assistance.

(OVER)

If you believe the dealer has failed to remedy the defect without charge within a reasonable period of time, you also have the opportunity under law to inform the Secretary of Transportation using the following address: Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590.

Thank you for your cooperation. We regret that this recall may cause you inconvenience; however, we have taken this action in the interest of your personal safety and satisfaction with our product.

Harley-Davidson Motor Co., Inc.

Enclosure