Initial production of 1973 Models XL/XLCH-1000 motorcycles were produced without a retaining clip to hold the wires against the fender near the tail lamp bulb socket.

This condition allows the wires to loop outward into the tirewell, possibly contacting the tire and rubbing off the insulation or tearing the wires when the wheel is adjusted to the rear position.

Removal of the wire insulation or tearing of wires would result in a short circuit or open circuit making the tail lamp and/or stop lamp inoperative. This would constitute a traffic hazard because of the absence of a stop signal and/or tail lamp illumination to warn following traffic.

In compliance with the National Motor Vehicle Safety Act, this has been declared a safety defect and will require that you install retaining clip, part No. 9965W, on the left side tail lamp mounting stud of all affected vehicles, to hold the tail lamp wires in place (see illustration).
Affected vehicles are as follows:

XL or XLCH from 3A or 4A 45311 H3 to 46787 H3
XL or XLCH from 3A or 4A 60000 H3 to 60130 H3

Immediately inspect all vehicles within the above range of VIN’s for presence of the retaining clip and make proper installation, if there is no clip. This includes all affected motorcycles previously delivered to you or your customers and those which will be delivered to you out of warehouses. A list of registered owners and a list of undelivered vehicles involved in this campaign which have been delivered to your dealership are included with this bulletin. It is your responsibility to contact owners of motorcycles sold but which are not listed on the enclosed notification.

We will begin notification of registered owners in your dealership to contact you for this service immediately.

Immediately order your requirements of clip, part No. 9965W if you do not have sufficient stock on hand. We are enclosing five clips for your immediate use.

We urge you to contact each of the owners, as well as any other owners of the involved vehicles in your area that are not listed, and make arrangements to install the retainer as soon as possible. A copy of the letter to the owners is enclosed for your information.

Each letter to the owners will include special service card No. 020 which must be completed, signed by the customer and you, the dealer, at the time service is performed. Extra service cards for undelivered motorcycles are enclosed with this bulletin. If required, additional cards should be ordered from the Service Department stating quantity and defect Code No. 020.

Immediately after service is performed, return completed service cards in an envelope to Harley-Davidson Motor Co., Inc., Attention: Service Department, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201. You will receive $1.00 credit for each clip installed.

Note: At time of vehicle inspection, check to see that 1-1/8 dia. flat washers, part No. 6341B, are installed underneath license plate bracket nuts as shown in the illustration.

These washers have been added for later 1973 production to reinforce the bracket mounting.

AMF/Harley-Davidson Motor Co., Inc.