



Mercury Marine
Sterndrives and Inboards
 3003 North Perkins Road
 Stillwater, OK 74075-2299 USA
 Phone: 405-743-6566
 www.mercurymarine.com

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION OF FEDERAL BOAT SAFETY ACT RECALL

Dear Mercury MerCruiser Owner,

Thank you for your purchase of a Mercury SmartCraft Digital Throttle and Shift (DTS) engine. Mercury Marine is dedicated to providing superior customer reliability and customer satisfaction. As part of our commitment to superior customer satisfaction, we have determined that your outboard must be recalled under the **Federal Boat Safety Act** so that we can perform an inspection of the DTS system software.

What is the condition?

Mercury Marine has identified that the DTS system may encounter the lever fault alarm which will create an audible six second tone and generate a fault pop-up on the VesselView screen or other SmartCraft instrument, if so equipped. When this fault mode occurs, the Guardian strategy will limit throttle to 65% of available power and the shift position will remain in the gear location the engine was in when the fault was triggered. The shift function will not be available when called for by the electronic remote control (ERC). You will not be able to shift out of your current gear position when the above fault occurs and Guardian is active.

To clear the fault and reinstate shifting, if safe to do so, shut engine or engines off for 15 minutes and restart engine or engines as needed. The ERC may or may not trigger the same fault if the ERC is again positioned to the same throttle demand position. It is advisable to operate the engine or engines, if possible, below the demand position where the fault occurred until corrections can be made. The correction should be performed as soon as possible, because the potential loss of control could result in personal injury.

Mercury Marine has identified the cause of this condition and made the appropriate changes to new Guardian system software to allow shifting to occur on demand by the ERC.

What will Mercury Marine do?

Mercury Marine dealers can perform an inspection of your DTS system for the correct system software. Mercury Marine has provided instructions to our dealers on the proper method of correcting the DTS system software if required.

What should you do?

Please contact your Mercury dealer and mention MerCruiser Service Bulletin 2008-08 to schedule an appointment to have this inspection performed on your DTS system. Your dealer will be able to determine how long this inspection/correction will take. This inspection/correction should be completed as soon as possible to prevent any loss of shift condition from occurring.

Please present this notice to your dealer when you bring your boat in for your service appointment.

What if you have other questions or no longer own this engine?

Please contact your Mercury dealer or call Mercury Customer Service at 1-405-743-6566 between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., CT.

We have sent this notice in the interest of your continued satisfaction with our product, and we sincerely regret any inconvenience this may cause you.

Thank you for boating with Mercury Marine.

Mercury Marine Service