

ITEM 81A/04

SUBJECT: PAINT DAMAGE DUE TO INDUSTRIAL FALLOUT

MODELS: All

Damage to paint finish on vehicles caused by "industrial fallout" or "acid rain" cannot be rectified by ordinary refinishing procedures. Fallout conditions are caused by pollutants in the atmosphere mixing with moisture and forming a penetrating acid on horizontal surfaces of the vehicle, eating into the finish.

Fallout stains usually take the form of dark spots and/or circles on metallic or dark finishes or faded spots and/or ringlets on lighter color vehicles.

The surface discoloration can travel through the color and primer coats and down to the metal. If the condition is caught in the early stages, the surface can be compounded quite successfully.

The recommended repair sequence if refinishing is necessary is as follows:

1. Wash vehicle with car wash detergent to help neutralize the acid.
2. Scuff sand surface. DO NOT GRIND OFF FINISH COLOR OR PRIMER.
3. Use a clear sealer spray in accordance with the paint manufacturer's directions.
4. Apply final color coat.

DO NOT ATTEMPT THE FOLLOWING:

- Grinding - will tend to spread the acid over a greater area.
- Removing original color - makes matching more difficult.
- Removal of primer - reduces the durability of the surface.
- Normal refinishing procedures - will almost certainly cause the reappearance of the staining from the base to the surface.

Fallout damage is not considered a defect and is not covered by warranty.

This bulletin is issued for information purposes on the problem cause and suggested rectification procedure.

H.C.T.