



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

400 Seventh St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**FEB 13 2004**

**CERTIFIED MAIL**

Mr. Fred Ruddock Jr.  
8793 Deerwood Drive  
North Charleston, SC 29406

Dear Mr. Ruddock,

I am responding to your inquiry addressed to Ms. Nicole Nason in which you ask for a current list of all FMVSS 218 compliant helmets.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration does not maintain a list of helmets that are compliant with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 218. The law establishes a self-certification process in which the vehicle and equipment manufacturers themselves certify that their products are in compliance with all applicable FMVSS, which establish minimum criteria that the product must meet. In accordance with FMVSS No. 218 S5.6.1(e), the symbol DOT applied to a helmet constitutes the manufacturer's certification that the helmet conforms to all applicable standards. Furthermore, each manufacturer is responsible for ensuring that its products are free of safety-related defects. If an item is found not to comply with applicable standards or is found to have a safety defect, the manufacturer is responsible for remedying the noncompliance or defect at no cost to the customer.

You may review our recall database on the internet to identify noncompliant helmets. The web site is <http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems/recalls/recallsearch.cfm>. To identify helmets, select "equipment" and the make of the helmet.

I hope this information has been helpful. If you have any questions, please contact Claudia Covell of the Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance at [claudia.covell@dot.gov](mailto:claudia.covell@dot.gov).

Regards,

Claude H. Harris, Director  
Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance



VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE  
888-327-4236