Low Volume Vehicle Technical Association (inc)

SAFETY ALERT

 # 05 – 2020 (December 2020)

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Y32 and Y33 Nissan Strut Warning

Aftermarket adjustable suspension struts manufactured as replacements for Y32 and Y33 Nissans which incorporate welding of the cast or forged stub axle assembly are currently being sold within New Zealand.

Welding of a cast or forged component is prohibited within the NZ Car Construction Manual, and unless these components go through the correct approval process, they cannot be LVV certified.

Nissan Infiniti Q45s, Cimas, Glorias, and Cedrics based on the Y32 and Y33 platform (1997-2007), feature a front suspension system that incorporates the spindle assembly within the bottom of the shock absorber. The design requires welding of the cast or forged stub axle assembly to the strut tube during manufacture, and while Nissan's OEM manufacturing processes will undoubtedly have included the use of appropriate materials and heat treatment processes, the same level of certainty cannot be assumed of the aftermarket parts manufacturer.

As LVVTA generally prohibits welding of a cast or forged component, aftermarket variants of this design cannot be accepted by LVV Certifiers, unless the manufacturer has gone through the process outlined in Information Sheet 05-2012 Welded Aftermarket Suspension Struts.

To date, no suspension suppliers have gone through the process for these models. Should owners of Y32 and Y33 vehicles wish to fit coil-over adjustable suspension, they do have the option to add adjustable platforms to the OEM struts. The requirements for this style of modification can be found in the LVV Suspension System Standard.