



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



June 17, 2022

[REDACTED]
Pleasant Hill, CA
[REDACTED]

NEF-109 ela
Ref. No. 11465414

Thank you for the letter about your model year (MY) 2005 Subaru Baja vehicle. Your letter was forwarded to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation. I am pleased to respond.

NHTSA is the federal agency responsible for improving safety on our nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. Among other activities, we also monitor the completion rate and adequacy of manufacturers' recall campaigns.

We are aware of NHTSA Safety Recall Campaign No. 20V-001. The recall addresses a problem with Takata front passenger-side air bag inflators in certain MY 2003 through MY 2006 Baja vehicles. These vehicles had previously received an interim repair under NHTSA Safety Recall Campaign No. 16V-358. In the event of a crash necessitating deployment of the front air bags, these inflators may rupture due to propellant degradation occurring after long-term exposure to high absolute humidity and temperature cycling.

We entered your vehicle information number (VIN) into our VIN Look-Up Tool and confirmed that Recall 20V-001 is still incomplete on your vehicle (report enclosed). Please note that NHTSA does not send owners safety recall notifications. Manufacturers are required to send recall notifications to the owner they have on record based on the most current registration information. Furthermore, some dealers hire third party companies to send recall reminders to vehicle owners. We believe this is most likely the case with the letter you received. We encourage you to contact your local Subaru dealer to schedule a service appointment immediately. You can also contact Subaru Customer Assistance at 1-844-373-6614 for further assistance in locating a dealer to complete Recall 20V-001 on your vehicle.

The recall of defective Takata inflators has grown over the past few years to include 19 separate vehicle manufacturers and currently includes approximately 41.6 million vehicles in the United States, making it the largest, most complex recall in NHTSA's history. The most significant challenge presented by this recall has been the availability of remedy parts, which has been affected by numerous factors including, but not limited to, the need to obtain redesigned parts from alternative inflator suppliers, testing to ensure the safety of remedy parts, manufacturing and capacity constraints given the enormous global demand, and logistics in getting the parts out to the distribution networks and into the dealer's hands.

The agency issued an amended Coordinated Remedy Order in December 2016, to order affected vehicle manufacturers to accelerate recall repairs and prioritize vehicles, to reduce the risk of rupture and protect the American public. The Order attaches a prioritization schedule for all vehicles currently affected by the recall, or that will become affected by future expansions, based upon known risk factors such as the age of the inflator, the geographic location of the inflator, and the location of the inflator in the vehicle.

For the most up-to-date information on the Takata recalls, we also encourage you to visit our website at www.nhtsa.gov/recall-spotlight/takata-air-bags. We also encourage you to use our VIN Look-Up Tool (www.nhtsa.gov/recalls) at least twice per year to see if your vehicle is included in any open recalls.

If you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment in the future, please complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at www.nhtsa.gov or call the Vehicle Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236. Also, you may review owners' complaints, safety recalls, manufacturers' service bulletins, etc., on our website.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy Reid".

Randy Reid, Chief
Correspondence Research Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement

Enclosure

VIN

VEHICLE

CAR SEATS

TIRES

EQUIPMENT

Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)

Every vehicle has a unique VIN. Enter a VIN to learn if a specific vehicle needs to be repaired as part of a recall.

4S4BT62C55



17/17



Looking for more information on this vehicle?

NHTSA offers more safety information based on a vehicle's year, make and model. Check safety ratings, recommended technologies and other safety issues.

[Learn More](#) →

2005 Subaru Baja



VIN: 4S4BT62C5

Recall data refreshed on Feb 04,2020

1 Unrepaired Recalls associated with this VIN

Dec 20,2019

Manufacturer Recall Number TKA20

NHTSA Recall Number 20V001000

Recall Status Recall Incomplete

Summary

Subaru of America, Inc. (Subaru) is recalling certain 2009-2013 Forester, 2003-2006 Baja, 2004-2011 Impreza, 2004-2014 WRX (STI included), 2003-2014 Legacy and Outback, and

2005-2006 Saab 9-2X vehicles originally sold, or ever registered, in the s

Research Requests (1)

California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan), and the U S Virgin Islands or "Zone A " These vehicles had their passenger frontal air bag inflators previously replaced under a prior recall using inflators of the same design

Safety Risk

Despite the previous recall repair for a "like-for-like" air bag inflator replacement, vehicles containing a Takata-sourced passenger-side frontal air bag inflator remain susceptible to propellant degradation occurring after long-term exposure to high absolute humidity, temperature and temperature cycling. Over time, this could cause the inflator within the air bag to explode when the passenger's frontal air bag deploys in a crash. If the air bag inflator explodes, sharp metal fragments could strike vehicle occupants, potentially resulting in serious injury or death.

Remedy

Subaru will notify their owners. General Motors will notify Saab owners. Dealers will replace the passenger air bag inflators with alternate inflators, free of charge. The recall began in January 2020. Subaru Owners may contact Subaru customer service at 1-844-373-6614. Saab owners may contact the Saab Customer Assistance Center at 1-800-955-9007. Subaru's number for this recall is TKA-20. Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

Manufacturer's Notes

For additional information, please contact your dealer or visit [Subaru.com/contact us](http://www.subaru.com/contact-us).
<http://www.subaru.com>.

If the manufacturer has failed or is unable to remedy this safety recall for your vehicle in a timely manner,

please contact the NHTSA Vehicle Safety Hotline at: 1-888-327-4236 or TTY: 1-800-424-9153 or file an online complaint with NHTSA.

Research Requests (1)