

# BMW Group

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, RRR, AND EMAIL**

June 23, 2014

Ms. Nancy Lewis  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: Foreign Safety Campaign – Oil Filter Housing  
2014 MINI Cooper, Cooper S Hardtop**

Dear Ms. Lewis:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 579.11.

1. **Manufacturer:** Bayerische Motoren Werke AG (BMW AG)  
**Designated Agent:** Samuel Campbell, III  
Department Head, Safety Engineering and ITS  
BMW of North America, LLC  
200 Chestnut Ridge Rd. (Bldg. 150)  
Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677
  
2. **Make:** MINI  

<u>Model Year / Model</u>	<u>Inclusive dates of manufacture</u>
2014 / MINI Cooper, Cooper S Hardtop	Jan 13, 2014 – Jan 22, 2014
  
3. The number of vehicles affected is 40.
  
4. On affected vehicles, coolant may leak from the oil filter housing (oil/water heat exchanger).
  
5. The following foreign country is affected: Japan.
  
6. On affected vehicles, the oil filter assembly will be replaced.
  
7. The determination has been made by BMW Japan.
  
8. The remedy program will consist of notifying affected owners by letter in order for them to have their vehicles repaired.
  
9. The notification date to the Japanese Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport (MLIT) was April 16, 2014.
  
10. The repair started in April 2014.

**Company**  
BMW of North America, LLC

BMW Group Company

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11. On April 3, 2014, BMW Group issued a Technical Action as a Customer Satisfaction measure to replace the oil filter assembly in order to prevent a possible fluid leak on the newly launched MINI Cooper and Cooper S Hardtop. BMW of North America issued a Delivery Stop and Service Information Bulletin (SIB) to its MINI dealers. At the time of the Delivery Stop, 17 vehicles had been delivered to customers. BMW notified these customers by telephone and promptly conducted the Technical Action. At this time, all 17 vehicles have had the repair completed. There are no reports of leaks on any of the customer vehicles.

On April 16, 2014, BMW Japan inadvertently filed this Technical Action with the Japanese Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport (MLIT) as a safety recall. It was not until mid-May that BMW AG learned of this MLIT "A-rank" recall and, on May 26<sup>th</sup>, BMW NA was informed about this unusual circumstance. Discussions and analyses were conducted in order to determine the appropriate action to take, especially because an SIB had already been issued, and customer contact was already being implemented.

In early June, BMW Japan reported its error to the MLIT, and requested that the recall report be withdrawn, and the issue not be categorized as an "A-rank" recall. On June 11<sup>th</sup>, the MLIT informed BMW Japan that once such a report is submitted, it cannot be withdrawn, and the ranking cannot be modified.

Further discussions occurred between BMW AG and BMW NA regarding the appropriate action to take in the US market. On June 17, 2014, it was decided to file a Part 579 report.

Sincerely,

BMW OF NORTH AMERICA, LLC



Sam Campbell  
Department Head  
Safety Engineering and Intelligent Transportation Systems