

**MEMORANDUM TO FILE**

2/9/2005

Reference: PE04-073 (VW Golf, Jetta, GTI Turn Signal Failure)

Subject: Addition to file

From: *JAA* John Abbott, Safety Defects Specialist

To: Case File Assistant

Please add to the public file.

Defect Report dated 12/13/04. VW did not file a response to the IR letter in this investigation.

**Volkswagen of America, Inc.**

Product Compliance  
3800 Hamlin Road  
Auburn Hills, MI 48003

December 13, 2004

Mr. Kenneth N. Weinstein  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20590

04V-584

**Subject: Notification of Recall Pursuant to 49 CFR 573 (2004)  
2000-2002 Model Year Volkswagen Jetta and Golf Vehicles**

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

This information is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR 573 (2004)), and constitutes our complete response to PE04-073 NVS-212(f); Hazard Flasher Malfunction.

573.6 (c) (1) Manufacturer's Name  
Volkswagen AG (VWAG)

Importer  
Volkswagen of America, Inc. (VWOA)

573.6 (c) (2) Identification of Vehicles

Make : Volkswagen  
Line : Jetta, Golf (including GTI)  
Model Years : 2000-2002  
Month/Year  
of Manufacture : June 1999 through September 2001  
VIN Numbers : Jetta: [REDACTED]  
Of Affected : Golf (German) [REDACTED]  
Vehicles : Golf (Brazil) [REDACTED]

Other  
Identification : Vehicles with 27-watt turn signal bulbs using the "C" level  
Hazard Switches

573.6 (c) (3) Number of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect  
Approximately 350,000 vehicles in the United States.

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- 573.6 (c) (4) Percentage of Vehicles Actually Containing Defect  
VWoA is unable to determine the percentage of vehicles actually containing the defect.
- 573.6 (a) (5) Description of Noncompliance/Defect  
VW has determined that, in some cases the hazard switch and flasher system function in the subject vehicles may degrade over time because of distortion and material transfer of the contacts of certain hazard switch relays which occurs due to substantially increased electrical current load from higher-wattage turn signal bulbs. This may result in intermittent or inoperative turn signal and hazard flasher function. The hazard switch relay was changed in production in June 1999 to include an electrical contact material that is now known to be insufficient to withstand the current load over time. In September 2001 the entire relay design was changed to the "J"-level to reduce noise levels, which also resulted in increased current capacity of the relay contacts. The subject vehicles utilize a 27-watt turn signal bulb, instead of the 21-watt bulb used in other VW vehicles, which results in substantially higher current draw through the hazard switch relay.
- 573.6 (c) (8) Basis for Determination  
VWAG identified the potential for this defect while preparing the response to PE04-073. As a result of this investigation, VWoA identified 218 consumer complaints, 4 field reports, zero crashes, zero injuries, zero accidents and 4,900 warranty claims related to turn signal/hazard flasher malfunction in the subject vehicles. Also as the result of this investigation, VWAG conducted testing and analysis of returned hazard switch parts from the subject vehicles, which led to the understanding described above.
- 573.6 (c) (7) Noncompliance Test Result  
Not applicable.
- 573.6 (c) (8) Proposed Remedial Program  
VWoA will notify all owners of affected vehicles and instruct them to bring their vehicles in so that a replacement hazard flasher switch/relay kit can be installed at no charge.  
  
Notification to dealers: On or about February, 2005  
Notification to customers: On or about February, 2005 TBD
- 573.6 (c) (9) Submission of Communications  
A representative copy of all bulletins and other communications sent to dealers and owners will be submitted within five (5) days of dealer/owner notification.
- 573.6 (c) (10) Proposed Owner Letter  
A proposed owner notification letter will be submitted for review and approval.
- 573.6 (c) (11) Manufacturer's Recall Code  
VWoA has assigned the code "VX" to this safety recall.

Sincerely,

  
John Maddox  
Product Compliance Officer