

VOLKSWAGEN

GROUP OF AMERICA

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2008 APRIL 7 - 11:30 AM
OFFICE OF RECALL
MANAGEMENT DIVISION

08V-156
(2 Pages)

Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

JOHN MADDOX NAME
PRODUCT COMPLIANCE/TREAD OFFICER TITLE
PRODUCT COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT
248-754-5000 PHONE
248-754-5093 FAX
APRIL 4, 2008 DATE

Subject: **Notification of Recall**
1999-2005 MY Volkswagen Passat (5th Generation)
Install Underbody Heat Shields and Inspect/Replace
Fuel System Components if Necessary

Dear Mr. Smith:

This information is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Part 573 of
Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR 573 (2008)).

VOLKSWAGEN GROUP OF AMERICA, INC
3800 HAMLIN ROAD
AUBURN HILLS, MI 48326
PHONE +1 248 754 5000

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

Importer
Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. (VWGoA)

573.6 (c) (2) **Identification of Vehicles**
Make : Volkswagen
Line : Passat (5th Generation)
Model Years : 1999-2005
Month/Year
of Manufacture : June 1999 through May 2005

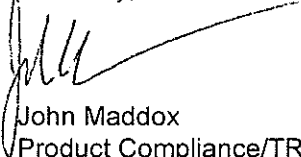
VIN Numbers : Plant Emden: WVV ___ 3B _ X E 494025 -
of Affected Vehicles WVV ___ 3B _ 5 E 172033
Plant Mosel: WVV ___ 3B _ X P 489411 -
WVV ___ 3B _ 5 P 060354

Other Identification : all above US specification vehicles
except for diesel engine vehicles.

573.6 (c) (3) **Number of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect**
Approximately 412,000 vehicles are affected by this recall in the United
States.

- 573.6 (c) (4) **Percentage of Vehicles Actually Containing Defect**
VWGoA is unable to estimate the percentage of vehicles in the United States that are subject to this defect.
- 573.6 (c) (5) **Description of Defect**
The affected vehicles with automatic transmissions may have an underbody heat shield that can become damaged. If this occurs, the heat shield may contact the exhaust system, which can result in a vehicle fire. In addition, the affected vehicles may have a fuel line (1.8T engines only) or fuel tank ventilation valve (4motion / all wheel drive vehicles only) that may leak due to fracture. A fuel leak in the presence of an ignition source can lead to a vehicle fire.
- 573.6 (c) (6) **Basis for Determination**
Conclusions from tests and simulations run in the course of preparing responses to NHTSA's information requests (IR).
Date of determination: April 1, 2008
- 573.6 (c) (7) **Noncompliance Test Result**
Not applicable
- 573.6 (c) (8) **Proposed Remedial Program**
Volkswagen will install additional underbody heat shields on vehicles with automatic transmission to cover the possibly damaged areas and flash the 1.8T engines with a precautionary software update. Additionally, Volkswagen will inspect and adjust the fuel line routing on 1.8T vehicles and the fuel tank ventilation valve on four wheel drive vehicles (4motion), and replace these components if necessary. This work will be performed at no cost to customers.
- Pending parts availability, mailing dates are anticipated as follows:
- Dealers:** on or before May 27, 2008
Owners: on or before May 30, 2008
- 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 draft owner's letter will be submitted to the agency for review and approval.
- 573.6 (c) (11) **Manufacturer's Recall Code**
VWGoA has not yet assigned the code for this recall.

Sincerely,



John Maddox
Product Compliance/TREAD Officer
Service and Quality