

VOLKSWAGEN

GROUP OF AMERICA

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 15, 2008 DATE

Subject: **Notification of Recall**

2003-2005 MY Volkswagen New Beetle Convertible and
2004-2005 MY Volkswagen New Beetle
Inspect/Replace Airbag Frontal Crash Sensor(s) on Vehicles
with Advanced (Dual-Stage) Front Airbag System

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

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)).

573.6 (c) (1) **Manufacturer's Name**
Volkswagen de Mexico, A.A. de C.V.

Importer
Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. (VWGoA)

573.6 (c) (2) **Identification of Vehicles**

Make : Volkswagen
Line : New Beetle Convertible and New Beetle
Model Years : New Beetle Convertible: 2003-2005
New Beetle: 2004-2005
Month/Year
of Manufacture : New Beetle Convertible: July 30, 2002 – October 31, 2004
New Beetle: July 24, 2003 – October 31, 2004
VIN Numbers : New Beetle Convertible: 3VW__1Y_3M300193 -
Of Affected Vehicles 3VW__1Y_5M318423
New Beetle: 3VW__1C_4M402760 -
3VW__1C_5M407750

Other Identification : Vehicles equipped with an advanced (dual-stage) airbag system and sensors with the part number 1F0 909 606

573.6 (c) (3) **Number of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect**
Approximately 76,900 vehicles are affected by this recall in the United States.

- 573.6 (c) (4) **Percentage of Vehicles Actually Containing the 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 equipped with an advanced (dual-stage) airbag system may have airbag frontal crash sensors (1F0 909 606) that contain a solder joint on the circuit board that may crack under certain high temperature conditions. If this occurs the airbag indicator light will illuminate and the fallback algorithm will ensure that the front airbags always deploy in a frontal crash in which the vehicle's deceleration is high enough to activate the frontal airbags. In low-severity frontal impacts, the front airbags may deploy more forcefully than designed, increasing the possibility of injury to out-of-position front seat occupants.
- 573.6 (c) (6) **Basis for Determination**
Analysis of consumer complaints and warranty claims conducted in preparing a response to NHTSA's information request.
Date of determination: April 11, 2008
- 573.6 (c) (7) **Noncompliance Test Result**
Not applicable
- 573.6 (c) (8) **Proposed Remedial Program**
Volkswagen will inspect and, if necessary, replace 1F0 909 606 airbag frontal crash sensor(s) on affected vehicles. This work will be performed at no cost to customers.

Until the date of the customer notification, Volkswagen will repair free of charge any subject vehicle that is presented for service to authorized Volkswagen dealers with malfunctioning airbag sensor(s) using existing, but limited, quantities of the new sensors with part number 6Q0 909 606 H.

Pending parts availability, mailing dates are anticipated as follows:

Dealers: on or before July 28, 2008
Owners: on or before July 31, 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 assigned the code R6 (SAGA Code TBD) for this recall.

Sincerely,



John Maddox
Product Compliance/TREAD Officer
Service and Quality