



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 21-009
Date Opened: 03/29/2021
Investigator: Lemeola Kamanya
Approver: Stephen Ridella
Subject: Engine Stall - Turbo Failure
Reviewer: Tanya Topka

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.
Products: 2013-2016 Audi A8, S6, S7, S8, RS7
Population: 23,347 (Estimated)

Problem Description: The complaints allege that the vehicle stalls suddenly with no prior warning while driving on the highway or in city traffic. Several complaints attribute the failure to oil starvation of the turbocharger due to clogging of the oil strainer.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	58	TBD	TBD
Crashes/Fires:	0	TBD	TBD
Injury Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Injuries:	0	TBD	TBD
Fatality Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Fatalities:	0	TBD	TBD
Other*:	3	Confidential	Confidential

*Description of Other: Early Warning Reporting (EWR) Field Reports

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: Open a Preliminary Investigation (PE)

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received 58 complaints and a number of field reports for 2013-2016MY Audi vehicle models A8, S6, S7, S8 & RS7. The subject vehicles are equipped with a 4.0L, twin-turbocharged engine. The complaints allege that the vehicle stalls suddenly with no prior warning while driving on the highway or in city traffic. Several of the complaints alleged an inability to restart.

The complaints allege that the vehicle stall is due to a turbocharger failure. Several complaints attribute the failure to oil starvation of the turbocharger due to clogging of the oil strainer. The location of the oil strainer in the turbocharger oil supply line is in the inner valley of the engine. It is not easily accessible, making service difficult.

VW has issued several versions of the Technical Service Bulletin (TSB) 2044640. This TSB instructs technicians on the procedure to replace the turbocharger once it has failed or is about to fail. The TSB states that poor oil supply to the turbocharger can cause turbocharger failure. The different versions of the TSB address the scope of affected vehicles and parts and software changes.

ODI is opening this Preliminary Evaluation (PE) to determine the scope and severity of the potential problem as well as to fully assess the potential safety related issues.

The ODI reports cited above is available to review online at NHTSA.gov under the identification numbers:

11404665, 11404426, 11404348, 11403430, 11403268, 11399435, 11397821, 11396241 11394763, 11391037,
11388662, 11387166, 11386620, 11377446, 11363283, 11355614, 11354107 11344193, 11342497, 11342360,
11340302, 11339228, 11325065, 11324908, 11324163, 11322714 11322168, 11321144, 11318477, 11306754,
11279429, 11279408, 11270534, 11268109, 11256706 11252723, 11246579, 11234853, 11234714, 11231582,
11231013, 11230589, 11229484, 11222281 11218822, 11218749, 11217604, 11209458, 11209168, 11209142,
11208147, 11197149, 11191243 11179883, 11175842, 11170776, 11164032, 11152418