

Volkswagen of America, Inc.

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OFFICE
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION



3800 Hamlin Road
Auburn Hills, MI 48326
Tel. (810) 340-5000

October 8, 1997

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

97V-175

Subject: Notification of Recall Pursuant to CFR 49, Part 573
1995-97 Audi Vehicles
Installation of Ground Contact Wire
Audi Recall Code KG

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

This information is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations:

573.5(c)(1) **Manufacturer's Name**
Audi AG

Importer
Volkswagen of America, Inc. (VWoA)

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

Make : Audi
Line(s) : Audi 90, Cabriolet, A4, A6, A8
Model Years : 1995 through 1997
Month/Year of Manufacture : July 1994 to September 1996
VIN Ranges : Audi 90
WAU___8C_SA000001 - WAU___8C_SA083724
: Audi Cabriolet
WAU___8G_SA000001 - WAU___8G_T_011426
: Audi A4
WAU___8D_TA000001 - WAU___8D_VA000192
: Audi A6
WAU___4A_SN010266 - WAU___4A_TN112277
: Audi A8
WAU___4D_VN000174 - WAU___4D_VN000219

Other Description : N/A

- 573.5 (c)(3) **Number of Vehicles Affected**
Approximately 39,300 vehicles are affected by this recall.
- 573.5 (c)(4) **Percentage of Vehicles Containing Defect**
The percentage of vehicles actually containing the defect cannot be determined but is estimated to be very small.
- 573.5 (c)(5) **Description of Defect**
Audi has determined that the discharge of static electricity under low humidity conditions could activate the driver side air bag when the driver enters or exits the vehicle and forms and electrical circuit by touching certain areas of the steering wheel. Activation of the air bag under these conditions could cause injury.
- 573.5 (c)(6) **Basis for Determination**
Audi received to date four (4) complaints from owners of these vehicles. These incidences were investigated by the manufacturer resulting in the conclusion that static electricity under low humidity conditions could form a circuit when the driver contacts the ground while entering or exiting the vehicle and touches certain portions of the steering wheel.
- 573.5 (c)(7) **Noncompliance Test Result**
Not applicable
- 573.5 (c)(8) **Proposed Remedial Program**
Audi of America, Inc. will initiate a recall providing for the installation of a ground wire. It is anticipated that the owner notification will begin on or about October 13, 1997.
- 573.5 (c)(9) **Submission of Communications**
A representative copy of bulletins and other communications sent to dealers and owners will be submitted to the NHTSA within five (5) days after the owner notification mailings.
- 573.5 (c)(10) **Proposed Owner Letter**
A copy of the proposed owner notification letter is enclosed.
- 573.5 (c)(11) **Manufacturer's Recall Code**
Audi has assigned the code "KG" to this recall.

Sincerely,



Andreas H. Steglich
Product Compliance Team Leader

JvH
Agasfca

Audi of America, Inc.



3800 Harlin Road
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

Tel. (810) 340-5000

October 1997

87V-178 (C)

**Subject: Recall Campaign KG
Install Ground Contact Wire**

Dear Audi Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Audi has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in some 1995 to 1997 model Audi vehicles. Our records show that your Audi is one of the vehicles which could be affected by this condition.

**Defect
Description**

Audi has determined that the discharge of static electricity under low humidity conditions could activate the driver side air bag when the driver enters or exits the vehicle and inadvertently helps form an electrical circuit by touching certain areas of the steering wheel. Activation of the air bag under these conditions could cause injury.

Remedy

Your authorized Audi dealer will install a ground wire which is designed to harmlessly discharge any such static electricity.

**Repair
Schedule**

Parts and installation instructions will be at your authorized Audi dealer on or about October 13, 1997.

**Anticipated
Repair Time**

The work will take approximately one hour. However, your dealer may need your vehicle for a longer period. The work will, of course, be performed at no charge to you.

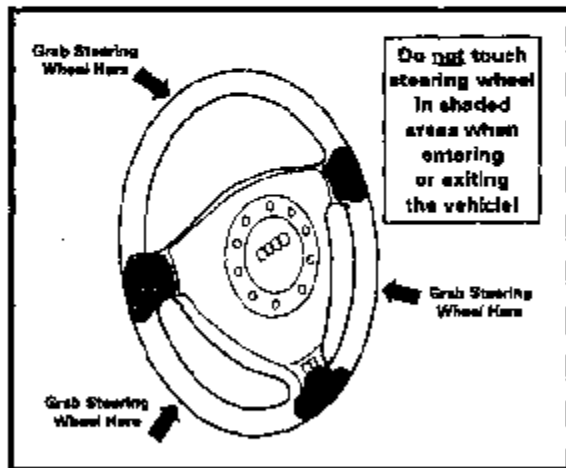
**What You
Need To Do**

Please contact the Service Department of your authorized Audi dealer to schedule an appointment as soon as possible. When you deliver your Audi for recall service, please present the enclosed authorization form to the dealer's service representative.

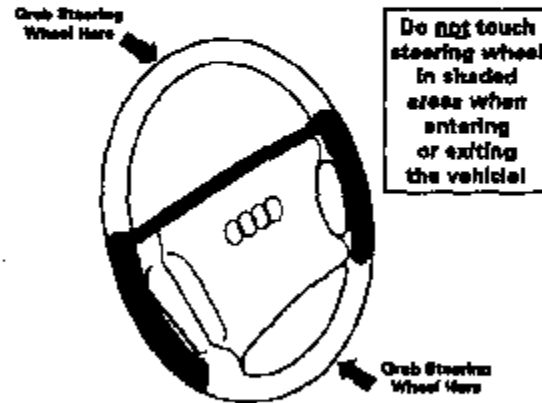
Precautions

Until your vehicle has been corrected, please do not touch the areas of your steering wheel in the areas shown in the illustrations below while you enter or exit the vehicle. While you are inside the vehicle, you may use the steering wheel in the normal manner.

3-SPOKE STEERING WHEEL



4-SPOKE STEERING WHEEL



Lease Vehicle

If the vehicle identified in this recall is a leased vehicle and you, the Lessor and registered owner receive this notice, please forward this information by first class mail to the Lessee.

Service Problem Help

If your authorized Audi dealer fails or is unable to remedy the defect free of charge within a reasonable time, please call or write to:

Audi of America, Inc.
Attn: Customer Relations - 2F02 (KG)
3800 Hamlin Road
Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2855
Toll-free Telephone: 1 (800) 822-2834

If you still cannot obtain satisfaction, you may file a complaint with: Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: (800) 424-9393 (Washington, DC area: 366-0123).

We regret any inconvenience this matter may cause you; however, we want to make sure that your Audi is safe and operates to your satisfaction.

Thank you for driving an Audi.

Sincerely,

Andreas H. Steglich
Product Compliance Team Leader