

SEP 22 1999

**INITIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF
DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. 99V-249 by the
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Report Date: September 14, 1999

MANUFACTURER: Subaru of America, Inc.

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: Don Bearden, Director of Governmental Affairs

FAX: (609) 488-3255


SUBJECT: 133 Subaru 2000 Legacy model vehicles manufactured from July 12 through August 25, 1999. Anti-rust coating was incorrectly applied to the transverse link mounting surface of the vehicle body. Over time the coating shrinks, causing a torque decrease of the bolt that secures the transverse link bracket to the vehicle body, resulting in loosening of the bracket and subsequent separation of the transverse link from the vehicle frame.

This is an initial acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be forthcoming shortly. After our review of your report and associated documents, we may have additional comments or concerns.

In accordance with Part 577, amended July 7, 1995, a draft owner notification letter must be submitted for review prior to mailing.

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Owner notification is expected to begin during October 1999. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due in this office by January 30, 2000.

If you have any questions, please call:

 Patricia Wallace, Recall Analyst on (202) 366-5232
or Jonathan White, Chief on (202) 366-5226
or by FAX (202) 366-7882
Recall Analysis Division



U.S. Department
of Transportation
National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20390

Mr. Don Bearden
Director, Governmental Affairs Department
Subaru of America, Inc.
P.O. Box 6000
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-6000

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Dear Mr. Bearden:

We have reviewed Subaru of America, Inc.'s (Subaru) Defect Information Report dated September 19, and subsequent information dated September 23, 1999, submitted in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports." The amended recall involves 13 Subaru 2000 Legacy model vehicles manufactured from July 12 through August 25, 1999. Anti-rust coating was incorrectly applied to the transverse link mounting surface of the vehicle body. Over time the coating shrinks, causing a torque decrease of the bolt that secures the transverse link bracket to the vehicle body, resulting in loosening of the bracket and subsequent separation of the transverse link from the vehicle frame. The assigned ID Number for this recall campaign is 99V-249.

Subaru is responsible for the remedy of these vehicles from this date forward, regardless of vehicle age, mileage, or ownership.

Quarterly Status Reports

As stated in Part 573.6, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. *As stated in your report, owner notification began September 27, 1999.* The first quarterly report was due on January 30, 2000. However, as of this date, no quarterly report has been filed. Please submit this quarterly report by **April 5, 2000**.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Pat Wallace at (202) 366-5232 or fax at (202) 366-7882.

Sincerely,

Jonathan D. White, Chief
Recall Analysis Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Safety Assurance