

BMW Group

August 10, 2005

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

RECEIVED
NHTSA-215
2005 AUG 23 P 12:00
OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

05K-367

**RE: Recall Campaign – Brake Line Support Bracket
2005 BMW X5**

Dear Associate Administrator:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 and 49 CFR Part 573.

Pursuant to Section 573.6(c), we submit the following information.

- Manufacturer: Bayerische Motoren Werke AG (BMW AG)

Designated Agent: BMW of North America, LLC
Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677
- Make: BMW

<u>Model Year / Model</u>	<u>Inclusive dates of manufacture</u>
2005 / X5	July 8, 2005 – July 19, 2005
- The number of vehicles affected is approximately 165.
- The percentage of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect is 100%.
- The defect involves the attachment of the brake line support bracket within the front left wheel well. The bracket may not have been spot welded according to specification and could loosen. If this happened, the front left brake hose could rub/chafe against the wheel well. Over time, the hose could become damaged to the point where a loss of brake fluid could occur. If this happened, the brake warning lamp in the vehicle's instrument cluster would illuminate. While this would be accompanied by a loss of front brake performance, the rear brake circuit would not be affected. The ability to slow and stop the vehicle would still exist.
- BMW initially became aware of the problem during July 2005 production. During vehicle assembly, a front left brake line support bracket broke. Analysis indicated that the spot welding process for this bracket was not performed according to specification. Upon further review, it was determined that the welding machine used for this process had been misadjusted after routine maintenance procedures.

Company

BMW of North America, LLC

BMW Group Company

Mailing address

PO Box 1227
Westwood, NJ
07675-1227

Office address

300 Chestnut Ridge Road
Woodcliff Lake, NJ
07677-7731

Telephone

(201) 307-4000

Fax

(201) 782-0764

Website

bmwusa.com



Subsequent analyses and inspections resulted in a determination of the range of potentially affected vehicles.

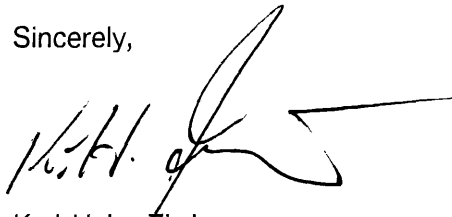
BMW has received no reports, nor is BMW otherwise aware of any accidents or injuries related to the defect.

7. Not applicable.
8. BMW will conduct a recall campaign to remedy the affected vehicles. Specifically, the brake line support bracket at the front left wheel will be reattached to the wheel well using rivets.

BMW expects to begin and complete dealer and owner notification in August 2005.

9. A copy of the Service Bulletin will be submitted when available.
10. A draft copy of the owner notification letter is attached.
11. Not applicable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Ziwick', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Karl-Heinz Ziwick
Vice President
Engineering US

Attachment

TREAD ACT CUSTOMER REIMBURSEMENT PLAN
(BMW of North America, LLC)

Customer Reimbursement for Safety Related Recall Repairs
Effective with Safety related recalls initiated January 15, 2003

The customer is encouraged to request reimbursement from their authorized BMW SAV center. Alternatively, the customer may submit the request for reimbursement to the following address:

Customer Relations Department
BMW of North America, LLC
P.O. Box 1227
Westwood, NJ 07675-1227

In all cases:

- Repair expenses pertaining to the subject of the safety recall are reimbursable, not consequential expenses such as towing, rental, accommodations, damage repairs, etc.
- Expenses from repair facilities outside of the BMW SAV center network will be considered; however, the procedure must meet BMW standards and use BMW Genuine Parts.
- When BMW Genuine Parts are used, the Manufacturers Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) will be considered as the guideline for reasonable charges.
- Expenses for repairs performed more than 10 days after the date of the last owner notification letter sent by BMW are not eligible for reimbursement.
- Taxes and hazardous waste disposal, where previously paid, are eligible for reimbursement.
- BMW will not reimburse for prior repairs that did not utilize BMW Genuine Parts.

The authorized BMW SAV center will request a copy of the owner notification letter, as well as, a copy of the owner's previously paid invoice, and then inspect the vehicle (if still in the possession of the invoice holder) to determine the scope and quality of the previous repair. Claims shall be processed within 60 days of receipt.

DRAFT

August, 2005

Recall Campaign No. 05V-XXX: Brake Line Support Bracket

Dear BMW Owner:

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

BMW AG has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2005 Model Year BMW X5 Sports Activity Vehicles (SAV). Our records indicate that you are the owner of a potentially affected vehicle.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT

The defect involves the attachment of the brake line support bracket within the front left wheel well. If the attachment was not welded according to specifications, it could loosen and, over time, the brake hose could rub against the wheel well. The front left brake hose could become damaged to the point where a loss of brake fluid could occur. This would result in a loss of front brake performance, and would be accompanied by illumination of the brake warning lamp in the instrument cluster. However, rear brake performance would not be affected. It would still be possible to slow and stop the vehicle.

Your vehicle can still be driven; however, do not leave this problem unattended. A loss of front brake performance could occur. Depending on traffic conditions and the driver's reactions, this could increase the risk of a crash.

PRECAUTIONS

- 1. CONTACT YOUR AUTHORIZED BMW SAV CENTER IMMEDIATELY TO HAVE THE NECESSARY REPAIR PERFORMED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**
- 2. If the brake warning lamp is illuminated, or a loss of front brake performance is noticed, pull over carefully as soon as possible to a safe location and away from traffic. Do not continue to drive your vehicle. Contact BMW Roadside Assistance at 1-800-332-4269 immediately to have the vehicle brought to the nearest Authorized BMW SAV center.**
- 3. BMW recommends that you always wear your safety belt, and that all passengers are properly seated and restrained at all times.**
- 4. If you are not the only driver of this vehicle, please advise all other drivers of this important information.**

DESCRIPTION OF REPAIR

BMW will conduct a recall campaign to remedy the affected vehicles. The repair will consist of reattaching the brake line support bracket to the front left wheel well.

The actual repair will require approximately 2 ½ hours; however, additional time may be required depending on the BMW SAV Center's scheduling and processing. This work will be performed *free of charge* by your Authorized BMW SAV Center.

OTHER INFORMATION

If you are no longer the owner of this vehicle, we would appreciate you furnishing us with the name and address of the new owner, using the enclosed postage-paid card.

If you are a lessor of this vehicle, Federal Regulations require you to forward this notice to your lessee.

If you have already had this repair performed at your own expense, please see the attachment regarding possible eligibility for reimbursement.

Should you have any questions about this campaign, please contact your Authorized BMW SAV Center.

Again, we sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

We appreciate your confidence in our product, and we wish to do everything we can to retain your confidence. Should you need additional assistance, you may contact BMW Customer Relations and Services at 1-800-831-1117.

If the BMW SAV Center is unable to remedy the defect without charge or within a reasonable period of time, you may notify the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street S.W., Washington, DC 20590, call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153), or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

BMW OF NORTH AMERICA, LLC

TREAD ACT CUSTOMER REIMBURSEMENT PLAN
(BMW of North America, LLC)

If you have paid for the repair described in the attached letter, and you would like to be considered for reimbursement, please contact your authorized BMW SAV center. Expenses from repair facilities outside of the BMW SAV center network will be considered; however, the procedure must meet BMW standards and use BMW Genuine Parts.

Your authorized BMW SAV center will request a copy of your owner notification letter, as well as, a copy of your previously paid invoice, and then inspect the vehicle (if it is still in your possession) prior to submitting a claim on your behalf to BMW of North America, LLC for reimbursement.

Please note the following:

- Only a repair that is the subject of this safety recall is reimbursable. Consequential expenses such as towing, rental, accommodations, damage repairs, etc will not be reimbursed.
- When BMW Genuine Parts are used, the Manufacturers Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) will be considered as the guideline for reasonable charges.
- Expenses for repairs performed more than 10 days after the date of the last owner notification letter sent by BMW are not eligible for reimbursement.
- Taxes and hazardous waste disposal, where previously paid, are eligible for reimbursement.
- BMW will not reimburse for prior repairs that did not utilize BMW Genuine Parts.

We anticipate that your authorized BMW SAV center will be able to answer any questions that you may have regarding your qualifications for reimbursement of a previous repair. If you qualify for such a reimbursement, they will also be able to advise you of the manner in which you could receive reimbursement.

We recommend that your authorized BMW SAV center be your primary contact on this issue; however, our Customer Relations Department may be contacted at 1-800-831-1117 for any special assistance that you may require.

Alternatively, you may submit your request for reimbursement to the following address:

Customer Relations Department
BMW of North America, LLC
P.O. Box 1227
Westwood, NJ 07675-1227