



PERFORM THE PROCEDURE OUTLINED IN THIS SERVICE INFORMATION ON ALL AFFECTED VEHICLES BEFORE CUSTOMER DELIVERY OR THE NEXT TIME THEY ARE IN THE SHOP FOR MAINTENANCE OR REPAIRS.

Under the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966, as amended, if there has been a recall campaign, dealers must assure that all new vehicles and new items of replacement equipment are free of safety defects and comply with all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards at the time of delivery to the consumer. This means that dealers may not deliver new motor vehicles or new items of replacement equipment to consumers unless the safety defect or noncompliance has been remedied before delivery.

SUBJECT

Recall Campaign 06V-400: Check Tightening Torque of Front Axle Control Arms and Tie Rods

MODEL

E90 (3 Series)

SITUATION

During the assembly process, one of the four fasteners which secure the front control arms and tie rod ends to the left or right steering knuckle may have been improperly tightened. Over time this condition could lead to undue wear and damage to these components.

AFFECTED VEHICLES

This Recall Campaign involves 325 and 330 models which were produced from 30 June 2006 through 14 July 2006.

In order to determine if a specific vehicle is affected by this Recall Campaign, it will be necessary to utilize the "Service Menu" of the DCS (Dealer Communication System) or the Key Reader. Based on the response of the system, either proceed with the corrective action or take no further action.

The Chassis Number Ranges listed below are **only** for informational purposes and are not to be considered as the only deciding factor.

Model	Chassis Number Range
325iA	K000716 – K001134
330i	AZ88529 – AZ88650
330iA	KS38285 – KS38708

CORRECTION

Check the initial tightening torque of the affected front axle fasteners. Re-torque the fasteners or replace the necessary components as specified under the section marked **PROCEDURE** in this bulletin.

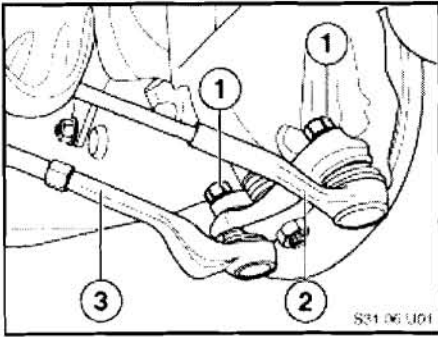
PROCEDURE

With the vehicle properly supported on a lift, check the torque of the front axle fasteners. This procedure must be performed at the left and right front steering knuckles.

Using a torque wrench, set to 60 Nm, check the release torque (counter clockwise rotation) of the fasteners (1) that secure the outer tie rod ends (2) and the control arms (3) to the steering knuckles.

If the fastener cannot be removed, with a release

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torque of 60 Nm, then set the torque wrench to 165 Nm and tighten the fastener.

If a fastener can be removed before the torque of 60 Nm is reached, then the affected component (tie rod end or control arm) must be replaced. The associated steering knuckle (left or right) must also be replaced. Please refer to the appropriate repair instruction listed below.

For replacement of the left or right steering knuckle and the outer tie rod end see Repair Instructions: RA 31 21 090 and 32 21 151.

For replacement of the left or right steering knuckle and the lower control arm see Repair Instructions: RA 31 21 090 and 31 12 00. After the steering knuckle has been replaced, a wheel alignment must be performed, and the toe-in and camber adjusted if necessary, see Repair Instructions: RA 32 00 155/601/610.

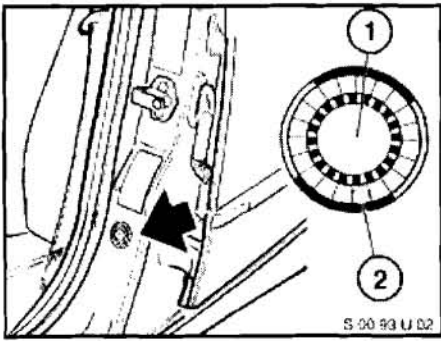
PARTS INFORMATION

Please note: It is known that only one fastener can be loose on the affected vehicles. Therefore, only one steering knuckle (left or right) can be claimed per vehicle. Additionally, only the component which was not sufficiently tightened should be replaced (tie rod end or lower control arm, not both).

Part Number	Description	Quantity
31 21 6 764 443	Left side steering knuckle	1
32 10 6 767 781	Left side tie rod end*	1
31 12 6 770 849	Left side control arm*	1
33 32 6 760 668	Hexagon nut	1
31 10 6 755 474	Flanged nut with washer	3
31 12 6 760 203	Hexagon bolt with washer	4
Part Number	Description	Quantity
31 21 6 764 444	Right side steering knuckle	1
32 10 6 767 782	Right side tie rod end*	1
31 12 6 770 850	Right side control arm*	1
33 32 6 760 668	Hexagon nut	1
31 10 6 755 474	Flanged nut with washer	3
31 12 6 760 203	Hexagon bolt with washer	4

LABEL INSTRUCTIONS

This Recall Campaign has been assigned code number **480** After the vehicle has been checked, and corrected if necessary, obtain a label (SD 92-295) and:



- a. emboss your BMW dealer warranty number in the middle of the label (1);
- b. punch out code number **480** (2) printed on the label and,
- c. affix the label to the **B** pillar as shown.

If the vehicle already has a label from a previous Service Action/Recall Campaign, affix the new label next to the old one. Do not affix one label on top of another one because a number from an underlying label could appear in the punched-out hole of the new label.

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Defect Code **00 31 46 01 00**

Labor Operation: 00 56 296 Re-Torque mounting fasteners for control arm and tie rod at left and right steering knuckle

Labor Allowance: 5 FRU

Labor Operation: 00 56 297 Replace left or right steering knuckle and control arm

Labor Allowance: 35 FRU

Labor Operation: 00 56 298 Replace left or right steering knuckle and outer tie rod

Labor Allowance: 29 FRU

ATTACHMENTS

view PDF attachment **B310306Customer_Letter**.

view PDF attachment **B310306TREAD**.

Nov, 2006

Recall Campaign No. 06V-400: Front Axle Control Arm Connection

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 2006 Model Year BMW 3-Series vehicles. 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 bolted connection between the suspension control arm and the swivel bearing on the front axle. Specifically, one of these bolts was not tightened to the specified torque. As a result, this bolted connection could loosen. In some cases, it may be possible for a driver to notice this by a vibrating steering wheel, or a pull to one side during braking. In severe cases, the bolted connection could break, which could impair vehicle handling and control.

You may continue to drive your vehicle; however, you must have the problem corrected promptly. Failure to observe the following precautions, in conjunction with traffic and road conditions, and the driver's reactions, could increase the risk of a crash.

Precautions

- 1. Contact your Authorized BMW Center immediately to have the necessary repair performed as soon as possible.**
- 2. If you notice a vibrating steering wheel, or a pull to one side during vehicle braking, your vehicle may be experiencing this problem. In that case, you should pull over carefully to a safe location, and away from traffic. Do not continue to drive the vehicle. Please contact BMW Roadside Assistance immediately at 1-800-332-4269 to have the vehicle brought to the nearest Authorized BMW Center.**
- 3. BMW recommends that you always wear your safety belt, and that all passengers are properly seated and restrained at all times.**
- 4. Please advise all other drivers and passengers of this vehicle of this important information.**

Description of Repair

BMW will conduct a recall campaign to remedy the affected vehicles. The bolted connection will be checked and, if necessary, adjusted. In some cases, it may be necessary to replace the suspension control arm and the swivel bearing.

Retightening the connection will require approximately one-half hour. If it is necessary to replace the control arm and the swivel bearing, that will require approximately 3 ½ hours; however, additional time may be required depending on the BMW Center's scheduling and processing. This work will be performed *free of charge* by your Authorized BMW Center.

Other Information

If you are no longer the owner of this vehicle, we would appreciate your 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 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, or via Email at CustomerRelations@bmwusa.com

If the BMW 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 St., 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 center. Expenses from repair facilities outside of the BMW center network will be considered; however, the procedure must meet BMW standards and use BMW Genuine Parts.

Your authorized BMW 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 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 center be your primary contact on this issue; however, our Customer Relations and Services 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 and Services Department
BMW of North America, LLC
P.O. Box 1227
Westwood, NJ 07675-1227