

Fuel tank - leak from vapor recovery system

Main Message: An issue has been identified on a number of 2005/6 MY LR3 vehicles built between May and September 2005 (VIN range 5A342834 to 6A359153). Individual previously repaired vehicles may contain a similar specification fuel tank.

Some of the affected vehicles may contain a breather pipe that was not made to specification. This may result in excessive swelling and cracking of a grommet and subsequent detachment of the breather pipe from a connector tube. When the fuel level in the tank is above the level of the detached joint, fuel may then enter the breather pipe. The vehicle may exhibit MIL illumination, fuel odor, and drivability concerns such as hesitation, misfire, stalling, rough running or difficulty in starting. If the amount of fuel flowing into the breather pipe reaches the vapor canister and exceeds its capacity, the excess fuel may be discharged onto the ground.

Q1 Why is Land Rover recalling certain LR3 models?

A Land Rover is conducting a voluntary safety recall involving LR3 vehicles to replace the gasoline fuel tank.

Q2 Can you tell me more about what is wrong with the vehicles?

A There is a quality concern with the fuel tank vapor recovery system piping that is internal to the fuel tank.

Q3 How would the customer become aware of potentially having this concern?

A Symptoms that may be noticed by a customer are MIL illumination, fuel odor, and drivability concerns such as hesitation, misfire, stalling, rough running or difficulty in starting. In certain circumstances when the outside air temperature is very high, fuel may be expelled out of the charcoal canister mounted at the rear of the vehicle.

Q4 Does this recall affect vehicle safety?

A Only in as much that liquid fuel can overflow out of the charcoal canister when the outside air temperature is very high. Because most of the reports Land Rover has received of reported fuel leaks indicate that the leaks occurred immediately following refueling of the tank, it is advisable that customers refrain from completely filling their fuel tanks during hot climatic conditions.

Q5 Has Land Rover received many complaints?

A Since the launch of recall action B016, Land Rover has received a limited number of reports of this condition from some markets where there have been sustained high ambient temperatures

Q6 Have there been any accidents or injuries?

A There have been no injuries or accidents associated with this concern.

Q7 How was the condition discovered?

A The condition was discovered by monitoring the warranty data of vehicles built after the initial VIN cut off for the first fuel tank Recall (B016) but prior to the introduction of a new tank assembly onto the production line.

Q8 How long has Land Rover known about this defect?

A Detailed analysis conducted in October 2006 highlighted this concern.



- Q9 Is the defect connected with the fuel tank leading you to any concerns regarding the reliability of a system, which is supposed to be designed and engineered for the passengers' safety? What type of measures are you planning to take?
- A We have no concerns with the reliability of the fuel tank. This issue is a quality concern associated with one of the components integral to the fuel tank that was manufactured away from specification by the supplier.

Once tanks are replaced on affected vehicles, there is no need to undertake any additional work to ensure the fuel tank system is reliable and safe.

Q10 What has Land Rover done in production?

A Land Rover and the fuel tank supplier have worked closely together to ensure that fuel tank components are manufactured to the required specification.

Q11 What will authorized repairers do to the vehicles?

A Authorized repairers will replace the fuel tank with a known good fuel tank.

Q12 Which vehicles are affected by this recall?

A Specific 2005 MY LR3 vehicles in the VIN range 5A000360 to 5A342827and 2006 MY LR3 vehicles built up to 6A359153.

Q13 Are other Land Rover models affected by these actions?

A No other models are known to be affected.

Q14 Are parts available to rework vehicles?

A Parts will be available at campaign launch.

Q15 How much will the recall cost Land Rover?

A Cost was not a factor in deciding to recall these vehicles.

Q16 How do I know if my LR3 vehicle is affected?

A All owners of potentially affected vehicles will shortly receive a letter inviting them to contact a Land Rover authorized repairer for the work to be carried out.

Q17 How long does it take for the car to be inspected and repaired?

A The work will be carried out as quickly and efficiently as possible in order to minimize inconvenience to customers and is expected to take no longer than one and a half hours to complete. Naturally, due to dealer schedules, vehicles may be required for longer.

Q18 Can I continue to drive my LR3 vehicle safely until it has been recalled?

A Reports from affected markets confirm that this issue has only ever arisen when the air temperature is high, in excess of 40°C (104°F), and immediately following completely filling the fuel tank. And it is only in these circumstances that fuel has leaked out of the charcoal canister. If a customer is at all concerned about operating their vehicle in these conditions, our advice is fill the fuel tank no more than 3⁄4 full.

Note: Please ensure that any Press enquiries are referred to the Land Rover Public Affairs office