

# VOLKSWAGEN of America, Inc.

Product Compliance  
3800 Hamlin Road  
Auburn Hills, MI 48326  
Phone: 1 (248) 754-5000  
Fax: 1 (248) 754-5093

**08V-577**  
**(2 pages)**

October 31, 2008

Mr. Daniel Smith  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: **Notification of Recall**  
**2009 Model Year Volkswagen Passat, Passat Wagon and Passat CC vehicles**  
**Replace Steering Gear**

Dear Mr. Smith:

This information is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR 573 (2008)).

573.6 (c) (1) **Manufacturer's Name**  
Volkswagen AG

**Importer**  
Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. (VWGoA)

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

Make : Volkswagen

Line : Passat, Passat Wagon, Passat CC

Model Years : 2009

Month/Year  
of Manufacture : August 15, 2008 - September 23, 2008

VIN Numbers : Passat and Passat Wagon:  
Of Affected Vehicles : WVV\_\_\_3C\_9E031439 - WVV\_\_\_3C\_9E057756 (Emden plant)  
WVV\_\_\_3C\_9P026729 - WVV\_\_\_3C\_9P031168 (Mosel plant)

Passat CC:  
WVV\_\_\_3C\_9E515869 - WVV\_\_\_3C\_9E523742 (Emden plant)

Other  
Identification : none

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.

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- 573.6 (c) (3) **Number of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect**  
Approximately 130 vehicles potentially contain the defect in the United States.
- 573.6 (c) (4) **Percentage of Vehicles Actually Containing Defect**  
VWoA is unable to estimate the percentage of vehicles in the United States that are subject to this defect.
- 573.6 (c) (5) **Description of Defect**  
Volkswagen has decided that some affected vehicles may have an electromechanical steering gear control unit that can, in rare cases, malfunction due to a damaged capacitor. If this malfunction occurs, the driver's steering input is not properly processed by the system and the vehicle may not respond as the driver intends. This defect can only occur immediately after vehicle start-up when the steering wheel is moved for the first time and at speeds less than 5 mph (7 km/h). Driver attempts to overcome the system during malfunction will cause (1) vibrations in the steering wheel; (2) the steering system motor to turn off; (3) the red steering system malfunction indicator light to illuminate; and (4) audible warnings to chime. These four events will alert the driver that a steering system malfunction has occurred. A malfunctioning steering system could lead to a crash without warning.
- 573.6 (c) (6) **Basis for Determination**  
Inspection and analysis of subject vehicles in Europe.  
  
Date of determination: October 24, 2008
- 573.6 (c) (7) **Noncompliance Test Result**  
Not applicable
- 573.6 (c) (8) **Proposed Remedial Program**  
Volkswagen will replace the steering gear in affected vehicles. This work will be performed at no cost to customers.  
  
Pending parts availability, mailing dates are anticipated as follows:  
  
Dealers: on or before December 1, 2008  
Owners: on or before December 5, 2008
- 573.6 (c) (9) **Submission of Communications**  
A representative copy of all bulletins and other communications sent to dealers and owners will be submitted within five (5) days of dealer/owner notification.
- 573.6 (c) (10) **Proposed Owner Letter**  
A draft owner's letter will be submitted within five (5) days of dealer/owner notification for agency review and approval.
- 573.6 (c) (11) **Manufacturer's Recall Code**  
VWoA has assigned the code **48J1/P3** for this recall.

Sincerely,



Christopher T. Sandvig  
General Manager Compliance/TREAD  
Service & Quality