



## **Dealer Announcement – Subaru Recall WVG-17 Tribeca VDC G-sensor December 12, 2008**

Subaru of America, Inc. has initiated a voluntary Safety Recall to inspect and possibly reposition the Vehicle Dynamic Control (VDC) G sensor on approximately 5,130 2008 & 2009 Tribeca models. Campaign code WVG-17 has been assigned to this Safety Recall.

Affected vehicles may have been manufactured with the VDC G sensor installed incorrectly. The sensor is designed to be mounted in a forward facing direction but may have been installed backwards during production. There is a potential safety risk associated with this condition. The VDC G sensor is a component of the vehicle's electronic stability / traction control system and is located in the passenger compartment beneath the center console. If the sensor was improperly installed, vehicle handling characteristics during hard braking, sudden turns or other quick maneuvers could cause the vehicle to react in an unexpected manner or result in unstable handling. Under extreme conditions, the driver could lose control of the vehicle and a crash could occur. The driver would have no prior warning that this condition exists.

This recall will involve inspecting the position of the VDC G sensor. If the sensor is found to be installed correctly, no further action is needed. If the sensor is found to be installed incorrectly (backwards), the sensor must be removed and reinstalled in the correct position. The VDC system will also require reprogramming to ensure proper operation. Please refer to the Service Procedure section of the WVG-17 Campaign Bulletin for more details.

On December 4, 2008, Subaru issued a stop sale notice to dealers for all vehicles in inventory affected by this recall. At that time, dealers were sent an affected VIN list by their Region / Distributor Sales Office. As a reminder, all vehicles affected by this recall must be inspected and, if necessary, repaired before the vehicle can be placed in service. Vehicle coverage can be confirmed by performing a vehicle coverage inquiry through the dealer communications system.

**Please be advised that it is a violation of Federal law for a dealer to deliver a new motor vehicle covered by a recall under a sale or lease until the defect is remedied. Therefore, any Authorized Subaru Dealer failing to perform the applicable service procedures, defined in the campaign bulletin, to correct all affected vehicles in their inventory (new, used, demo) prior to the vehicle being placed in service may be subject to civil penalties of up to \$5,000 per violation (i.e., for each vehicle), as provided in 49 USC §30165(a) of the Safety Act, and will also be in breach of the Subaru Dealer Agreement.**

### **General information concerning this Safety Recall:**

- Campaign Bulletin WVG-17 has been posted on the [Techinfo.Subaru.com](http://Techinfo.Subaru.com) website. The Bulletin contains additional information concerning identification of affected vehicles, repair procedures, and claim submission procedures.
- Owner notification - owner notification letters are expected to be mailed during the week of December 15th. The Owner Notification letter recommends the vehicle driver "turn off" the Traction Control System until the inspection and, if necessary, repair is performed. Disabling the system will eliminate the possibility of a malfunction associated with an incorrectly installed VDC G sensor. Please refer to the letter found at the end of the Campaign Bulletin for additional information.