



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

March 26, 2009

MR. CHRISTOPHER T. SANDVIG  
GENERAL MANAGER COMPLIANCE/TREAD  
SERVICE & QUALITY  
VOLKSWAGEN OF AMERICA, INC.  
3800 HAMLIN ROAD  
AUBURN HILLS, MI 48326

NVS-215dgl  
09V-097

**SUBJECT: BELT BUCKLE WIRING HARNESS**

**DEAR MR. SANDVIG:**

This letter serves to acknowledge Volkswagen of America, Inc.'s (VW) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to Federal law.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**  
VOLKSWAGEN/CC/2009

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 09V-097

**Mfg's Report Date:** March 18, 2009

**Components:** SEAT BELTS: FRONT: BUCKEL ASSEMBLY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 5,750

**Summary:**

VOLKSWAGEN IS RECALLING 5,750 MY 2009 CC VEHICLES. SOME AFFECTED VEHICLES MAY HAVE AN INCORRECTLY ROUTED RIGHT FRONT PASSENGER SEAT BELT BUCKLE WIRING HARNESS, CREATING THE POTENTIAL FOR WIRES TO BECOME DAMAGED WHEN THE SEAT IS MOVED FULLY UP OR DOWN OR FORE AND AFT. IF THIS WIRING DAMAGE OCCURS, THE AIRBAG CONTROL MODULE WILL SWITCH TO A FALLBACK ALGORITHM AND DEACTIVATE THE PASSENGER'S FRONTAL AIR BAG. VEHICLE OCCUPANTS WILL BE MADE AWARE OF THIS AIRBAG DEACTIVATION WHEN BOTH THE AIRBAG WARNING LIGHT IN THE INSTRUMENT CLUSTER AND THE PASSENGER AIRBAG "OFF" LAMP ILLUMINATE.

**Consequence:**

IN THE EVENT OF A CRASH, THE PASSENGER'S FRONTAL AIRBAG WILL NOT DEPLOY AND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PROPERLY PROTECT AN OCCUPANT, INCREASING THE RISK OF INJURIES.

**Remedy:**

DEALERS WILL INSPECT AND ADJUST THE ROUTING OF THE RIGHT FRONT PASSENGER SEAT BELT WIRING HARNESS. IF A DAMAGED WIRING HARNESS IS FOUND, THE HARNESS WILL BE REPLACED FREE OF CHARGE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING APRIL 2009. OWNER MAY CONTACT VOLKSWAGEN AT 1-800-822-8987.

**Notes:**

VW RECALL NO. S3. CUSTOMERS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available.

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contacts for this recall will be Delia Lopez or Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-9525 or 202-366-5227, or by email at [Delia.lopez@dot.gov](mailto:Delia.lopez@dot.gov), or [Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov](mailto:Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. Person', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

George H. Person  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement