To: All Subaru Dealers Attn: Service Manager From: Subaru of America, Inc. Date: May 18, 2010

#### Subject: Update - Subaru Recall WVQ-27 2010 Legacy/Outback CVT Transmission Fluid Cooler Inlet Hose

Attached is a revised version of the WVQ-27 CVT Transmission Fluid Cooler Hose recall dealer announcement posted on Wednesday, May 12 and Friday, May 14.

Revisions apply to repair instructions only. The following is a recap of those changes:

- It is not necessary to check the CVT fluid level after hose replacement unless the original hose was found to be leaking.
- Claim submission information has been added and can be found at the end of the repair instructions.
- The hose part number has been added. 45520AJ021 Hose, CVTF.
- The example given for reading the lot code has been removed as this information was unnecessary. The actual list of codes remains unchanged.

## Subarunet Announcement – Originally posted May 12, 2010

Subaru of America, Inc. has initiated a voluntary Safety Recall to inspect and possibly replace the transmission fluid cooler inlet hose on approximately 29,433 2010 Legacy and Outback models equipped with a Continuously Variable Transmission (CVT) produced between July 31, 2009 and December 1, 2009. The affected VIN range is listed below. Note: Not all vehicles in the range are affected. Vehicle coverage can be confirmed by performing a vehicle coverage inquiry through Subarunet.

2010 Legacy A3215537 through A3227670 2010 Outback A3317662 through A3346480

Campaign code WVQ-27 has been assigned to this Safety Recall.

Affected vehicles may have been produced with a transmission fluid cooler inlet hose (located near the lower portion of the radiator) that was improperly formed during the manufacturing process. As a result, a section of the hose could unexpectedly split allowing transmission fluid to leak.

There is a potential safety risk associated with this condition. If an improperly formed hose were to split and leak transmission fluid, transfer of engine power to the wheels will begin to diminish, leading to vehicle power loss. This could happen without prior warning.

This recall will involve checking the "lot number" found on the transmission fluid cooler inlet hose. If the "lot number" is one of a specific group, the hose must be replaced with a new one. If the "lot number" is not within the group, the hose was manufactured to specifications and replacement is not necessary.

On May 12, 2010, Subaru issued a Stop Sale notice to dealers for all vehicles in inventory affected by this recall. Dealers are being sent a list of affected vehicles in their inventory or in transit by their Region / Distributor Sales Office. As a reminder, all vehicles in dealer inventory affected by this recall must be inspected and, if necessary, repaired before the vehicle can be

placed in service or retailed. Vehicle coverage can be confirmed by performing a vehicle coverage inquiry through Subarunet.

**Inspection and repair instructions start on page 3 of this document.** If the lot number found on the hose is not in the affected group, the vehicle may be sold. If the lot number is found to be in the group, the vehicle must be placed on hold until such time as the replacement parts are available and the vehicle repaired.

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, as 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 \$6,000 per violation (i.e., for each vehicle), as provided in 49 CFR §578.6 and will also be in breach of the Subaru Dealer Agreement.

General information concerning this Safety Recall:

- Repair parts will be available in 2-3 weeks. When available, each dealer will automatically be sent replacement parts equivalent to 20% of the dealer affected VIN list.
- Inspection and repair instructions have been posted on Subarunet as an announcement under the heading "Inspection and Replacement Procedure for CVT Transmission Fluid Inlet Cooler Hose".
- Campaign Bulletin WVQ-27 will be posted on the Techinfo.Subaru.com website in the near future. The Bulletin will contain additional information concerning identification of affected vehicles, repair procedures, and claim submission procedures.
- Owner notification owner notification letters are expected to be mailed on or around June 1, 2010.

Subject: Inspection and Replacement Procedure for CVT Transmission Fluid Inlet Cooler Hose

Affected Models: 2010MY Legacy and Outback; Equipped with CVT

# VIN Range

Sedan A3215537 – A3227670 Outback A3317662 – A3346480 **Note**: Non-affected vehicles are also included in the V.I.N. range.

# Affected Hose Lot Numbers

Check the lot numbers on the inlet cooler hose (the longer of the two hoses) to determine if the hose needs to be replaced. If the "lot number" is found to be any of those listed below, the hose must be replaced with a new one. If the "lot number" is not listed, the hose was manufactured to specifications and replacement is not necessary.

Affected Lot
Numbers
9609
9610
9701
9702
9704
9705
9707
9708
9709
9710
9711
9801
9802
9805
9806
9807
9809
9810
9901
9902
9903

# Lot Number Inspection

The lot number is stamped on the hose with white paint.

The following images are for illustration purposes only. The lot number depicted is not actually affected.

The lot number can be viewed with the hood opened, or with the vehicle on a lift.



Hose Location: The hose affected is the longer of the two.



# **Continuously Variable Transmission Cooler Hose**

CAUTION: Immediately after the vehicle has been running or after idling for a long time, the fluid will be hot. Be careful not to burn yourself.

Replacement Part 45520AJ021 (Hose, CVTF)

# Cooler Hose Replacement Procedure

- 1) Place vehicle on lift.
- 2) Remove the engine under cover.



**Hose Clamp Location** 





3) Squeeze the hose clamps and reposition to remove the hose. Confirm the direction and angle of the original hose clamps before removal. It is important to reinstall clamps in their original position.

4) Place a drain pan under the hose to collect any CVTF which may leak out.

# Caution: If the CVTF has spilled onto the exhaust pipe or body frame, wipe it off with a rag to avoid dripping fluid.

5) Remove the inlet cooler hose. **Note**: Be extremely careful not to damage the pipe.

6) Make sure the cooler hose pipe ends are clean prior to installing a new hose.

7) Install a new hose reusing the original hose clamps. **Note:** Do not permit the end of the hose to extend pass the raised lip section of the pipe. Be sure to place the hose clamps in their original position. If the original hose clamps are damaged or deformed, replace as necessary.



Note: Neither replenishment of transmission fluid nor inspection of fluid level will be necessary during replacement of the hose unless the original hose was found to be leaking fluid. Approx. 50cc through 70cc of fluid may be lost during hose replacement. The amount of fluid will still keep necessary level with sufficient margin.

# Note: The following procedure is only necessary if the original hose was found to be leaking fluid.

## Check and add CVTF

## CAUTION:

• CVTF level changes along with CVTF temperature. When inspecting CVTF level, observe the specified CVTF temperature.

• Always use specified CVTF or equivalent. Using other fluid except for specified or equivalent will cause malfunction.

1) Idle the engine to raise CVTF temperature to 35 — 45°C (95 — 113°F) on Subaru Select Monitor.

2) Set the vehicle on a lift.

3) Operate the select lever in P \_ R \_ N \_ D and D \_ N \_ R \_ P to circulate CVTF with the engine idling.

4) With the engine running, lift up the vehicle and remove the filler plug.



5) Check fluid level. **NOTE**: CVTF is at the specified level when it is up to the filler plug hole lower section.

6) Install the filler plug.

NOTE: Use a new gasket.

Tightening torque: 50 N·m (5.1 kgf-m, 36.9 ft-lb)

# **Claim Reimbursement and Entry Procedure**

Credit to perform this recall will be based on the submission of properly completed repair order information. Dealers may submit claims through Vehicle Claims Entry on Subarunet.com.

Claim Type & Campaign Code		Labor	Labor Operation
	RC WVQ-27	B 130 – 358 0.2 hrs.	CVT Transmission Fluid Hose Inspection
RC		C 130 – 351 0.2 hrs.	CVT Transmission Fluid Hose Replacement

**Note:** the following labor operation should only be added when the original hose was found to be leaking and the fluid level checked and adjusted as indicated in the repair instructions.

Labor	Labor Operation	
B 130 – 368	CVT Transmission Fluid	
0.2 hrs.	Level Check & Adjust	