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11V-580
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VOLKSWAGEN

GROUP OF AMERICA

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

CHRISTOPHER T. SANDVIG NAME
GENERAL MANAGER COMPLIANCE/TREAD TITLE
PRODUCT COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT
248-754-5000 PHONE
248-754-5093 FAX
DECEMBER 5, 2011 DATE

Subject: Notification of Voluntary Recall
2012 Model Year Audi A6
Sideguard[®] Head Curtain Airbag

VOLKSWAGEN GROUP OF AMERICA, INC.
3800 HAMLIN ROAD
AUBURN HILLS, MI 48326
PHONE +1 248 754 5000

Dear Mr. Harris:

This information is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR 573 (2011)).

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

Importer
Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. (VWGoA)

573.6 (c) (2) **Identification of Vehicles**
Make : Audi

Line : A6

Model Year : 2012

Month/Year
of Manufacture : April 8, 2011 through May 26, 2011

VIN Numbers
of Affected Vehicles: WAU__ _FC _ CN003355 - WAU__ _FC _ CN004425

Other Identification: None .

573.6 (c) (3) **Number of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect**
317 vehicles are affected by this defect in the United States.

573.6 (c) (4) **Percentage of Vehicles Actually Containing the Defect**
100% of affected vehicles contain the defect.

- 573.6 (c) (5) **Description of Defect**
Due to a production problem in the stitching process of the Sideguard® head curtain airbag cushion on one production day, the seam of the airbag may not be stitched properly. Because of this, the head curtain airbag may not deploy in a crash, increasing the risk of injury to vehicle occupants.
VWGoA is not aware on any case with an injury or death caused by this issue.
- 573.6 (c) (6) **Basis for Determination**
- End of May 2011: The supplier for the Sideguard® head curtain airbag conducted a COP test (confirmatory of production test) and found that the airbag did not deploy as intended.
 - From June to November 2011: The supplier sampled other Sideguard® head curtain airbags produced around the same production date of the "failed" airbag. Visual inspections showed improperly stitched seams in some of these airbags. In additional tests performed with these airbags, all deployed as designed and no other airbag test failed. Detailed research of production continued, and the supplier discovered an irregularity in the airbag stitching process that occurred during one production day.
 - November 28, 2011: The matter was presented to the product safety committee at Audi AG for assessment, and at that time the decision was made to conduct a safety recall.
- 573.6 (c) (7) **Noncompliance Test Result**
Not applicable
- 573.6 (c) (8) **Proposed Remedial Program**
When sufficient quantities of replacement Sideguard® head curtain airbags become available, VWGoA plans to notify all owners of affected vehicles and will instruct them to arrange for an appointment with an authorized dealer. Dealers will replace the left and/or right Sideguard® head curtain airbag at no charge to customers.

Dealers: January 2011
Owners: January 2011
- 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 to the agency for review and approval.
- 573.6 (c) (11) **Manufacturer's Recall Code**
VWGoA has assigned the code 69I5/K4 to this recall.

Sincerely,



Christopher T. Sandvig
General Manager Compliance/TREAD