



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 16, 2013

Dr. Sam Campbell
Department Head-Safety Engineering
BMW of North America, LLC
P.O. Box 1227
Westwood, NJ 07677

NVS-215KS
13V-570

Subject: Inst. Panel may Interfere with Air Bag Deployment

Dear Dr. Campbell:

This letter serves to acknowledge BMW of North America, LLC's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. 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:

BMW/X3/2013

Mfr's Report Date: November 14, 2013

NHTSA Campaign Number: 13V-570

Components:

AIR BAGS
ELECTRICAL SYSTEM: INSTRUMENT PANEL

Potential Number of Units Affected: 3

Problem Description:

BMW of North America, LLC (BMW) is recalling certain model year 2013 X3 xDrive 28i/35i vehicles manufactured February 11, 2013, through February 27, 2013. Due to a production process error, the tear seam on the instrument panel was not manufactured correctly.

Consequence:

In the event of a crash, the air bag could improperly deploy, thereby reducing the effectiveness of the air bag's protection and increasing the risk of injury to the front passenger. In addition, parts or fragments from the air bag system could strike and injure the front passenger or other vehicle occupants.

Remedy:

BMW has notified owners and dealers will replace the instrument panel, free of charge. Owners may contact BMW customer relations at 1-800-525-7417 or email BMW at CustomerRelations@bmwusa.com.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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.

On August 20, 2013, NHTSA announced new changes to the requirements governing safety recalls. Some of these requirements are already in effect. Please ensure your company will be in compliance with each requirement on, or before, its respective effective date. For a summary of the requirements and their effective dates please click on the "New!" link at <http://www.safercar.gov/Vehicle+Manufacturers>.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations
Enforcement