

**SUBJECT:        Aftermarket Leather Seat Covers and VD Recall Completion**  
**MODEL:         All Suzuki Grand Vitara (JB624, JB627, JB632) and Suzuki SX4 (RW420)**  
**YEARS:         2006 – 2011 Grand Vitara and 2007 – 2011 SX-4**

Suzuki Motor of America Inc. has been made aware of vehicles with modified seats, including seats covered in aftermarket leather. These modifications were performed without the knowledge or approval of Suzuki Motor Corporation or Suzuki Motor of America, Inc. Because of the critical function of the Supplemental Restraint System (SRS) in providing vehicle occupant safety, Suzuki Motor Corporation and Suzuki Motor of America, Inc. cannot recommend or support changes to the vehicle that may adversely affect the proper operation of critical SRS components or systems.

Suzuki Motor Corporation, in an effort to provide maximum occupant protection, provides a SRS in all Suzuki vehicles. The SRS may include Advanced Side Curtain Air Bags in addition to the Front Seat Air Bags, Front Seat Side Air Bags and a Front Passenger Occupant Classification System. The Occupant Classification System provides the Air Bag Sensing and Diagnostic Module (SDM) with valuable information about the Passenger Front Air Bag deployment strategy.

The deployment of any SRS Air Bag is, and must be, rapid, forceful and decisive. Any modifications to the SRS system can cause unnecessary injury or death if not allowed to deploy as designed.

All Suzuki models involved in the important VD Recall are equipped with an Occupant Classification Passenger Seat Sensing Mat and Occupant Classification Module (OCM). These components allow the SDM to command reduced deployment force, or disable entirely the Front Passenger SRS Air Bags in an effort to provide optimal front passenger safety to smaller individuals and children. The OCM uses sensors located in the Passenger Seat Bottom Cushion to sense the front passenger pressure points and weight in an effort to determine if the system should reduce the front passenger air bag deployment force or, disable the front passenger air bag. The sensors are attached to the seat bottom cushion and covered by the seat cover fabric. This system is engineered and tested with factory materials and parts to ensure proper sensor operation.

To ensure the SRS Occupant Classification system operates as designed and provides critical front passenger safety, Suzuki Service Providers should only install Genuine Suzuki repair parts without performing, or providing, any modifications to the repair parts.

**Affected Departments:**

The following departments in your facility should be notified of this information:

- Management       Service       Warranty       Parts       Accessories

If you, as an authorized Suzuki Service Provider, encounter a recall repair that involves a modified seat cushion, you must physically install only the Genuine Suzuki factory repair part outlined in the Service Information provided to you. Furthermore, the Genuine Suzuki repair part must be installed only by an authorized Suzuki Technician before the repair can be considered complete.

If a vehicle has had leather seat covers installed, and the vehicle owner requests the required repair part be provided to them but not installed, please do not comply and explain that Suzuki Warranty Procedures and Policy do not allow for providing repair parts to the customer without the parts being installed. Furthermore, although only the original seat fabric and color is available, and will not match their aftermarket product, the Genuine Suzuki factory repair part will ensure optimum system operation as when the vehicle was originally manufactured.

Suzuki regrets that these circumstances exist and hopes that you and the vehicle owner understand that these circumstances exist outside Suzuki's knowledge and control. As mentioned, because of the critical vehicle occupant safety involved in the VD Recall repair, only unmodified, Genuine Suzuki repair parts can be installed to properly repair the vehicle. Furthermore, Suzuki is unable to provide repair parts to match aftermarket designs or modifications.