



This Service Information bulletin supersedes SI B65 15 13 dated August 2013.

PERFORM THE PROCEDURE OUTLINED IN THIS SERVICE INFORMATION ON ALL AFFECTED VEHICLES BEFORE CUSTOMER DELIVERY OR THE NEXT TIME THEY ARE IN THE SHOP FOR MAINTENANCE OR REPAIRS.

BMW centers must ensure Recalls are completed after having been notified by BMW of North America, LLC (BMWNA) that a safety-related defect or noncompliance exists in any motor vehicle or item of replacement equipment in the center's possession at the time of notification. In BMW NA's case, this notification would typically be made by the issuance of a Recall notification in the form of a Service Information bulletin (SIB) or transmission of a Dealer Communication System (DCS) Recall message.

Under the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966, as amended, if a Recall campaign is announced by BMW NA, centers must ensure that all Recalls on new vehicles and new items of replacement equipment are completed BEFORE delivery to the consumer. This means that centers may not legally deliver new motor vehicles or new items of replacement equipment to consumers with an open Recall.

The Safety Act also prohibits centers from selling or leasing the motor vehicle or item of replacement equipment, unless and until the open Recall has been completed BEFORE delivery. This also pertains to vehicles in the Certified Pre-Owned program, and to items of replacement equipment.

Finally, BMW centers should not sell or use parts that have been recalled by BMW NA. Please follow the specific instructions provided by BMW NA on the return or disposition of the parts.

NEW designates changes to this revision

SUBJECT

Recall Campaign 13V-172: Passenger's Side Front Airbag Module

MODEL

E46

3 Series Sedan

Produced from January 2002 to December 2002

3 Series Coupe

Produced from February 2002 to December 2002

3 Series Convertible

Produced from February 2002 to December 2002

3 Series Sports Wagon

Produced from January 2002 to December 2002

M3 Coupe

Produced from February 2002 to December 2002

M3 Convertible

Produced from February 2002 to December 2002

SITUATION

This Recall involves the passenger's side front airbag. Specifically, this airbag may have been produced with a deployment propellant that was not manufactured to the correct specification.

In a front-end collision **in which the deployment of the passenger's side front airbag occurs as needed**, the airbag "housing" may rupture. If this were to occur, it could cause injury to the vehicle's occupants.

AFFECTED VEHICLES

This Recall Campaign involves E46 models which were produced from January (February for the Coupe and Convertible) 2002 to December 2002.

In order to determine whether a specific vehicle has had this Recall Campaign completed or is affected by this Recall Campaign, first check the B-pillar label for code number **647**. If code number **647** has been punched out, the campaign has already been performed. If code number **647** has not been punched out, it will be necessary to utilize the "Service Menu" of DCSnet (Dealer Communication System) or the Key Reader. Based on the response of the system, either proceed with the corrective action or take no further action.

CORRECTION

The passenger's side front airbag module requires replacement.

PROCEDURE

Replacing the passenger's side front airbag module:

- Refer to ISTA Repair Instructions 72 12 000, "Removing and installing or replacing airbag module on passenger's side."
- The new passenger's side airbag module does not need to be coded to the vehicle.
- Properly performing this repair should not cause the airbag light to illuminate.

Important Note: Make sure to disconnect the vehicle's negative lead to the battery prior to starting the Recall repair, to avoid setting faults that will cause the airbag warning light to illuminate.

There is no part inspection procedure. When this Recall shows open, and a claim for performing this Recall is not pending submission, perform the Recall repair.

Other Repairs

This Recall applies to an operational passenger's side front airbag. The issue being addressed will not cause an airbag (SRS) malfunction light to illuminate. It will also not prevent the system from deploying as intended in a front-end collision.

However, a recalled vehicle can arrive at your center with an airbag malfunction light illuminated.

It is important to identify these vehicles during the repair order write-up process; this will allow you to review the scope of the Recall repair with the customer. It is also important to notify the customer that diagnosis of the airbag system and any other needed repair work is not covered by this Recall.

PARTS INFORMATION

Part Number	Description	Quantity
72 12 9 330 942	Passenger's side front airbag module	1
51 45 8 146 760	Fastening elements	1
07 11 9 905 374	Collar nut, self-locking (rounds to 10)	2

PARTS ORDERING

We have implemented a **VIN-specific part ordering process**.

The replacement airbag can only be obtained through the ordering process below. The nuts and fasteners may already be in stock on your shelf, so please only include these parts in your order when they are needed.

All airbag orders for the E46 Recall must be emailed to recallparts@bmwna.com. The order email must contain the following information or the orders will be cancelled:

- Subject line – E46 Airbag Recall
- Center number and location code where the part should be delivered
- Contact Information – name, phone number
- Part number(s) required
- VIN – Last seven digits (7)

Please ensure you only order parts for those customers that have appointments. Orders will be placed into the system between 10:00am and 6:00pm EST, using the last 7 digits of the VIN as the PO.

All orders will be reviewed against the Recall VIN list; multiple orders on the same VIN will be cancelled.

Note: These airbags are non-returnable.

PARTS RETENTION

The parts replaced and submitted through this Recall claim entry procedure are the property of BMW NA.

Your center is responsible for the proper identification, storage and documentation of these parts. They must be held in a secure retention area until notification of claim payment is made by BMW NA through DCSnet.

NEW A DCSnet part return tag will be generated for the passenger's side front airbag module with special handling instructions.

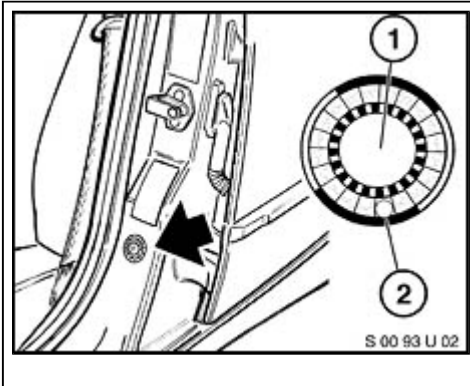
NEW Please do not return the airbag module to the Warranty Parts Return Center (WPRC).

NEW Effective Immediately

NEW A new and simplified shipping method and procedure has been created for returning the recalled airbags. Please follow the new procedure below.

NEW This information is also contained in the "Part Shipping" attachment PDF.

LABEL INSTRUCTIONS

	<p>This Recall Campaign has been assigned code number 647. After the vehicle has been checked and/or corrected, obtain a label (SD 92-420) and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Emboss your BMW center warranty number in the middle of the label (1); Punch out code number 647 (2), printed on the label; and Affix the label to the B-pillar as shown.
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If the vehicle already has a label from a previous Service Action/Recall Campaign, affix the new label next to the old one. Do not affix one label on top of another one, because a number from an underlying label could appear in the punched-out hole of the new label.

WARRANTY INFORMATION

The repair described in this bulletin is covered under warranty regardless of time or mileage.

Reimbursement for this Recall will be via normal claim entry utilizing the following information:

Defect Code:	00 72 33 01 00	
Labor Operation:	Labor Allowance:	Description:
00 61 067	Refer to KSD2	Replace the front passenger's airbag module (includes disconnecting and connecting battery negative cable)

Labor operation code 00 61 067 is a Main labor operation.

Inflatable airbags are classified as dangerous goods by the Department of Transportation (DOT) and require special preparation, packing and labeling for transport.

NEW Your center is responsible, and must follow all rules and regulations that apply to shipping dangerous goods.

NEW The New Simplified Airbag Module Return Procedure

NEW Note: The airbag modules are now being sent directly to the air bag module's supplier/manufacturer: Takata.

NEW IMPORTANT

NEW DO NOT USE THE "1.4 LABEL" AND DO NOT FOLLOW ANY INSTRUCTIONS FOUND INSIDE THE REPLACEMENT AIRBAG MODULE'S BOX.

NEW DISREGARD THOSE INSTRUCTIONS AND DO NOT RE-LABEL THE ORIGINAL BOX THAT WILL NOW BE USED FOR RETURNING THE RECALLED AIRBAG

NEW Have your center's Hazardous Material certified shipper contact the Warranty Parts Return Center (WPRC) to obtain Shipping Packet(s) by sending an email request to wprc@bmwna.com.

NEW The shipping packet contains everything you need to ship the recalled airbags directly to the supplier; the only requirements on your side are:

- As the shipper, your center is responsible for proper packaging and documentation completion.
- The person packaging the airbag(s) must have received the Hazardous Material training per 49CFR 172.702. Those training records must be on file at your center.
- The U.S. Department of Transportation ("DOT") will impose substantial fines and/or penalties on the shipper if the packaging, labeling, or documentation is not properly prepared and the customer's (center) copy of the OP 900PRP form is not kept on file for a minimum of two (2) years.

NEW Important: **No shipping costs** will be charged to your center, **as long as you follow this procedure and use the FedEx materials supplied to you from the WPRC.**

- Centers that do not follow this process will be responsible for any and all shipping costs incurred.

NEW After the Airbag Recall Claim is Credited:

1. Generate the DCSnet Warranty Parts Return Part Tag, three (3) copies, for each passenger's side front airbag module.
2. Insert two (2) copies of the corresponding part tag into the FedEx hazardous material pouch provided inside the shipping packet; retain the remaining copy for your records.

3. As required by the DOT:

Properly prepare, label and pack the airbags for ground shipment. Assign the part tags to a packing slip, generate and include it with your **FEDEX shipment of recall airbag modules being sent to the supplier/manufacturer: Takata.**

4. Do not include any parts that are meant to go the WPRC in this FEDEX shipment.

NEW Please Note: Due to the “Hazardous Material” related shipping requirements, generally, there will be no center debits issued for late submission/returns of these recalled airbag modules.

NEW However, this “statement” does not override the requirement for your center to return these recalled airbag modules.

Prior Customer-Pay Repairs

Review the prior customer-pay invoice (BMW center or independent repair shop) to validate that the repair performed is for the replacement of the passenger’s side front airbag module for the issue covered by this Recall.

After validating the prior repair and invoice, reimburse the customer (labor and parts).

Submit for the prior customer-paid repair expense as follows:

Defect Code 85 99 00 12 NA

- Sublet Code 3
- Dollar amount (with no markup)
- Comment: Reimbursement for allowable expenses related to the previous customer-pay repair
- Please detail and itemize the claimed sublet on the repair order and in the claim comment section.
- Retain the “original” customer-pay invoice in your files.

ATTACHMENTS

View PDF attachment [B651513 Q&A.](#)

View PDF attachment [B651513 Part Shipping.](#)

View PDF attachment [B651513 Customer Letter.](#)

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