



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

November 17, 2014

Mr. Mike Rains
Takata Corporation
2500 Takata Drive
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

NVS-215SM
14E-073

Subject: Passenger Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

Dear Mr. Rains:

This letter serves to acknowledge Takata Corporation'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:

TAKATA/PSPI AIR BAG INFLATOR/9999
TAKATA/PSPI-L AIR BAG INFLATOR/9999
TAKATA/SPI AIR BAG INFLATOR/9999

Mfr's Report Date: November 10, 2014

NHTSA Campaign Number: 14E-073

Components:
AIR BAGS

Potential Number of Units Affected: To Be Determined

Problem Description:

Takata Corporation (Takata) has determined that certain model SPI, PSPI, and PSPI-L passenger frontal air bag inflators manufactured April 13, 2000, to July 31, 2004, and installed in vehicles originally sold, or currently registered, in areas of high absolute humidity, may be susceptible to rupture in the event of a crash necessitating deployment of the front passenger air bag. Specifically, vehicles sold, or currently registered, in Puerto Rico, Hawaii, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, Saipan, American Samoa, Florida and adjacent counties in southern Georgia, as well as the coastal areas of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas, are susceptible to excessive internal pressure that could cause a rupture.

Consequence:

In the event of a crash necessitating deployment of the passenger side frontal air bag, the inflator could rupture with metal fragments striking and potentially seriously injuring the vehicle occupants.

Remedy:

The vehicle manufacturers that installed these inflators on their vehicle products will notify the affected vehicle owners and perform a free remedy on vehicles. Owners may contact their vehicle manufacturer for more information.

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.

We understand that Takata is not conducting a safety recall, and that the conduct of safety recalls, where applicable, is being, or will be, performed by the affected vehicle manufacturers.

The information report we received is incomplete in several respects. Takata must supply this information immediately or, if it is not presently available, update this report with the missing information within five working days of when it confirms its accuracy. Failure to timely report this information may subject Takata to civil penalties under applicable law.

Specifically, please provide the approximate number of inflators that Takata supplied to the affected vehicle manufacturers. If only an estimate is available, please provide that figure and indicate it is an estimate.

In addition, Takata is required to submit "a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety . . . including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports and other information, with their dates of receipt." Takata's chronology does not provide this minimum information. Please provide it as soon as possible. For example, please describe the air bag inflator testing Takata identified in its chronology. Takata should also provide details concerning any additional field information or testing information in relation to any subject inflators it supplied to other manufacturers beyond the three it identified in its chronology.

Please also explain how Takata determined the production dates identified in its information report. Please specifically address whether, and if so, how, the defect identified was corrected in production. Likewise, please identify and explain how the remedy or replacement inflators differ from the recalled inflators.

Please be reminded of the following requirement:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall 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).

Your contact for this recall will be Sarah Mcshane who may be reached by phone at 202-366-7401, or by email at sarah.mcshane@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