





Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC 555 MacArthur Boulevard Mahwah, NJ 07430 201-818-8500 14V-155 5 PAGES

March 28, 2014

Nancy Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS–215)
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington DC 20590

Subject: <u>Jaguar Land Rover Recall Number P040 – Two 2014 Model Year Range Rover Evoque Vehicles</u> for Right Hand Rear Suspension Link Arm to Knuckle fixings

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Pursuant to 49 CFR 573, Defect and Non-compliance Responsibility and Reports, Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC is submitting information concerning a recall that is being voluntarily initiated.

Summary

- <u>Action</u> Jaguar Land Rover is conducting a voluntary safety recall campaign involving two 2014 Model Year Range Rover Evoque vehicles for Right Hand Rear Suspension Link Arm to Knuckle fixings built at the Halewood (UK) Assembly Plant on November 27, 2013 and December 4, 2013.
- <u>Number of Vehicles Involved</u> Two Range Rover Evoque vehicles in the United States and Federalized Territories with the following VIN numbers:

Range Rover Evoque SALVP2BG0EH868007 and SALVT2BG1EH869937 November 27, 2013 and December 4, 2013

Affect on Vehicle Operation – A concern has been identified where right hand rear suspension link arm
to knuckle fixings may have been deformed (elongated) during the automated assembly process.
When subjected to normal use loading one or both of the fixings may fracture. The driver may report a
knocking noise from the rear of the vehicle when driving. Where one or both of the suspension link
arm fixings fracture vehicle stability may be compromised, the Stability Control System (SCS) may not
be able to control the lateral vehicle motion and in this condition there is an increased risk of a crash.

 <u>Service Program</u> – Dealers will replace the right hand rear suspension link arm fixings with new fixings and ensure the correct specification torque is applied. There will be no charge to owners for this repair.

Attached is the detailed information required by the applicable portions of 49 CFR Part 573 - Defect and Non-Compliance Information Report.

Please contact me for further information.

Sincerely,

John Kobylarz

Safety Compliance Manager

Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC

Attachment

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49 CFR Part 573 - DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT RECALL P040 – Two 2014 Model Year Range Rover Evoque Vehicles.

573.6 (c) (1) - Manufacturer Identification

Manufacturer Corporate Name

Jaguar Land Rover Limited Abbey Road Whitley Coventry England CV3 4LF

Affiliated U.S. Importing Company

Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC 555 MacArthur Boulevard Mahwah New Jersey 07430

573.6 (c) (2) - Potentially Affected Vehicles

Jaguar Land Rover is conducting a voluntary safety recall campaign involving two 2014 Model Year Range Rover Evoque vehicles for Right Hand Rear Suspension Link Arm to Knuckle fixings built at the Halewood (UK) Assembly Plant on November 27, 2013, and December 4, 2013.

573.6(c) (2) (iv) – Part Numbers, Components affected and Components Final Country of Manufacture

Right Hand Rear Suspension Link Arm to Knuckle fixings Part Number: W712505 S442

Plant Manager: Richard Else Telephone number: +44-1514484204

Quality Manager: Chris Scott

Production Facility: Jaguar Land Rover

Halewood (UK) Assembly Plant

Liverpool

United Kingdom

UK is the final country of manufacture.

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573.6 (c) (3) - Estimated Population of Vehicles Potentially Affected

Two 2014 Model Year Range Rover Evoque vehicles in the United States and Federalized Territories with VIN numbers:-

SALVP2BG0EH868007 and SALVT2BG1EH869937 November 27, 2013 and December 4, 2013

573.6 (c) (4) - Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Condition

100%

573.6 (c) (5) - Description of the Defect

A concern has been identified where right hand rear suspension link arm to knuckle fixings may have been deformed (elongated) during the automated assembly process. When subjected to normal use loading one or both of the fixings may fracture. The driver may report a knocking noise from the rear of the vehicle when driving. Where one or both of the suspension link arm fixings fracture vehicle stability may be compromised, the Stability Control System (SCS) may not be able to control the lateral vehicle motion and in this condition there is an increased risk of a crash.

573.6 (c) (6) - Chronology of Events

Jaguar Land Rover received two field reports worldwide in January 2014 where the rear suspension link arm to knuckle fixings were missing. A further 2 field reports worldwide were received in March 2014.

On the March 3, 2014, Jaguar Land Rover Critical Concerns Review Group (CCRG) opened an investigation to review this condition.

Engineering reviewed field reports and reported that the failure mode of elongation is typical of over torque resulting in tensile fracture. Laboratory tests of a failed bolt were commissioned which concluded that the failure was as a result of elongation of the bolt due to over torque. The laboratory report also concluded that the bolt material was to specification. The investigation noted that the bolt elongation (plastic deformation) occurred during the automated knuckle assembly process. The over torqued condition did not cause a complete fracture of the fastener. The joint was retained by a reduced cross section of the bolt. Subsequent additional loading in service has resulted in a fracture of the bolt.

Investigations at the vehicle assembly plant where this sub-assembly process is completed highlighted that a maintenance activity conducted on the manufacturing cell allowed the Direct Current (DC) tooling controller to be switched off. This resulted in the DC tooling controller not indicating the OK - NOK status of the joint. Data from the DC tooling has revealed that there are a number of vehicles where the rear suspension link fixings may not be torqued to the correct specification.

The CCRG reviewed all available data and concluded the issue be progressed to the Jaguar Land Rover Technical Review Group (TRG) for consideration.

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The TRG reviewed all information on the March 6, 2014 and recommended that this concern be progressed to the Jaguar Land Rover Field Review Committee (FRC).

The FRC convened on March 21, 2014 and concluded that the concern represented an unreasonable risk to safety and that a voluntarily safety recall be conducted.

There have been no reported accidents or injuries as a result of this concern.

573.6 (c) (8) (i) Manufacturer's Remedy Program and Reimbursement Plan

Owners will be notified and instructed to take their vehicles to a Land Rover Dealer who will remove and replace both right hand side rear suspension link arm to knuckle fixings and torque up to the correct specification.

There will be no charge to owners for this repair.

573.6 (c) (8) (ii) Estimated Notification Date to Owners and Dealers

Mailing of owner notification letters will occur on or before May 27, 2014. Notifications to dealers will occur on April 2, 2014.

573.6 (c) (10) - Notices, Bulletins, and Other Communications Related to the Defect

Jaguar Land Rover does not plan to make a public statement concerning the subject matter of this action. A copy of the notification letters to dealers and owners from Jaguar Land Rover will be forwarded when available.

573.6 (c) (11) - Recall Number

Jaguar Land Rover has assigned recall number P040 to this recall action.