

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**14V-656****Manufacturer Name :** Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.**Submission Date :** OCT 17,2014**NHTSA Recall No. :** 14V-656**Manufacturer Recall No. :** Not Yet Assigned**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Address : 3800 Hamlin Road

Auburn Hills MI 48326

Company phone : 1-800-822-8987

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 442,000

Estimated percentage with defect : 0

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle : 2011-2013 Volkswagen Jetta

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Vehicles with a rear torsion crank axle

Production Dates : MAR 01, 2010 - NOV 30, 2012

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2012-2013 Volkswagen Beetle/Beetle Convertible

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Vehicles with a rear torsion crank axle

Production Dates : MAR 01, 2011 - JUL 31, 2013

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : If a repair facility does not correctly diagnose or replace damaged rear axle components after a rear or side-rear impact crash severe enough to cause deformation of one or both rear axle trailing arms, the durability of the trailing arm (s) could be reduced, later leading to sudden fracture of the trailing arm. A sudden trailing arm fracture may lead to loss of vehicle control and could result in a crash without warning.

There have been no reports of accidents or injuries as a result of this concern in the United States.

Description of the Safety Risk : A sudden trailing arm fracture may lead to loss of vehicle control and could result in a crash without warning.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : United States

Chronology :

Routine field monitoring in calendar years 2013 and 2014 detected single incidents of fractured trailing arms without a discernible trend, mainly in Asian countries. Analysis provided that in all incidents, the trailing arm (s) had been deformed in an earlier impact/crash and had not been properly repaired/replaced. Due to the nature of the failures, these incidents were reported to Volkswagen AG in Germany.

On October 10, 2014, Volkswagen AG reviewed the reported situations and decided to implement a voluntary recall to prevent the potential consequences of a post-crash trailing arm failure due to undiagnosed component deformation, despite the absence of a design or manufacturing defect. All of the failures observed were caused by outside influence where unrepaired or undetected pre-damage was caused by previous rear or side-rear impact/crash could be substantiated.

Field monitoring provided single incidents of broken rear axles in markets outside the United States. In these incidents, pre-damage resulting from prior rear or side-rear impact/crash, in which one or both of the trailing arms were deformed and this damage to the rear axle was not noted during post-impact/crash vehicle inspection and/or repair was noted.

Such trailing arm deformation reduces durability and could lead later to sudden fracture of the trailing arm. A sudden trailing arm fracture may lead to loss of vehicle control and could result in crash without warning. Although all failures were caused by unrepaired and/or undetected impact/crash damage (outside influence), Volkswagen has decided conduct a voluntary recall in order to modify the rear axle to address the potential of a sudden fracture of a previously deformed and unrepaired trailing arm.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Customers are reminded, as always, to bring their vehicle to an authorized Volkswagen dealer or licensed repair facility for proper diagnosis/repair whenever the vehicle is involved in an impact/crash.

At no cost to customers, Volkswagen will install a sheet metal inlay on both rear axle trailing arms. This inlay is designed to help prevent the sudden loss of vehicle control, should a rear axle trailing arm fracture occur if undiagnosed/unrepaired damage to this area exists after a severe rear or side-rear impact/crash.

Volkswagen is working diligently to make parts to address this recall available as soon as possible. In the interim, customers will be notified about this voluntary recall and invited to visit an authorized Volkswagen dealer for a rear axle inspection free of charge.

Because the recall issue can exist only after an impact/crash where damage to vehicle components was not correctly diagnosed/repared, coverage for any required vehicle repair is solely at customer expense and is not covered by this recall. Customers with vehicle requiring post-crash repair should contact their insurance company for assistance without delay.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers: Anticipated late October, 2014
Owners: Interim notification – Anticipated late October, 2014
Recall repair notification –To be determined, depending on parts availability

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

* NR - Not Reported