OMB Control No.: 2127-0004

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

## 14V-658

Manufacturer Name: Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

**Submission Date :** OCT 20,2014 **NHTSA Recall No. :** 14V-658 **Manufacturer Recall No. :** 60B9



#### **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: 7,062 Estimated percentage with defect: 0

#### **Vehicle Information:**

Vehicle: 2013-2015 Volkswagen Beetle

Vehicle Type: LIGHT VEHICLES

**Body Style: HATCHBACK** 

Power Train: NR

Descriptive Information: Vehicles with a factory-installed panoramic sunroof.

Production Dates : JUN 13, 2013 - JUL 03, 2014

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range** 

#### **Description of Defect:**

Description of the Defect: Due to a production process issue at the sunroof glass supplier, some vehicles may

have been built with a panoramic sunroof glass panel with a steel frame that may have been manufactured out of tolerance. As this manufacturing issue could cause additional stress to the glass panel, the glass panel may be susceptible breakage if the vehicle experiences a sudden jolt, such as when hitting a large bump or pothole in the road – especially in cold temperatures. Usage of certain de-icing salts also has been identified as a contributing factor. If the glass panel were to break when the vehicle is in motion, it could cause driver distraction, increasing the risk of a crash.

Description of the Safety Risk: If the glass panel were to break when the vehicle is in motion, it could cause driver distraction, increasing the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur: NR

### **Supplier Identification:**

**Component Manufacturer** 

Name : NR Address : NR

**Country: United States** 

#### **Chronology:**

Routine field monitoring identified single incidents of fractured sunroof glass, and analysis showed that the fractures occurred without any indication of an external impact (e.g. being hit by stones).

Additional failures were observed through May 2014, and thereby triggered an investigation into possible causes.

Further analysis during the summer months of 2014 identified the cause as the metal sunroof frame being manufactured outside of the allowed tolerance range. This out-of-spec tolerance can lead to decreased surface tension of the toughened glass, possibly resulting in glass fracture caused by driving through potholes or over curbs during cold ambient temperatures. Certain winter salts used in northern regions may further contribute to the sensitivity of the glazing.

On October 10, 2014, Volkswagen AG reviewed the issue and decided to implement a voluntary recall.

#### **Description of Remedy:**

Description of Remedy Program: Volkswagen will replace the panoramic sliding sunroof in the affected

vehicles at no cost to customers.

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: To be determined, depending on parts availability

Owners: To be determined, depending on parts availability

Planned Dealer Notification Date: NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date: NR - NR

\* NR - Not Reported