

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

October 16, 2015

Mr. Francis Dance Safety Integrity and Recall Manager BMW of North America, LLC P.O. Box 1227 Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677 NVS-215KS 15V-628

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

**Subject:** Passenger Frontal Air Bag May not Deploy Properly

Dear Mr. Dance:

This letter serves to acknowledge BMW of North America, LLC'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:

BMW/I3/2014-2015 MINI/COOPER/2014-2016 MINI/COOPER S/2014-2016 MINI/JOHN COOPER WORKS/2015-2016

Mfr's Report Date: October 2, 2015

NHTSA Campaign Number: 15V-628

# **Components:**

AIR BAGS:PASSENGER SIDE FRONTAL

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 6.073

## **Problem Description:**

BMW of North America, LLC (BMW) is recalling certain model year 2014-2016 MINI Cooper S and MINI Cooper two-door vehicles, 2015-2016 MINI John Cooper Works and MINI Cooper S and MINI Cooper four-door vehicles and 2014-2015 BMW i3 vehicles. Due to a manufacturing error, the passenger frontal air bag may not deploy properly in a low speed crash. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 208, "Occupant Crash Protection."

### **Consequence:**

In the event of a vehicle crash, an air bag that does not deploy properly increases the risk of injury to the front seat passenger.

#### Remedy

MINI and BMW will notify owners, and dealers will replace the passenger frontal air bag module, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin November 20, 2015.

Owners may contact MINI customer service at 1-866-825-1525, and BMW customer service at 1-800-525-7417.

### **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.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), 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).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@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

