

**Part 573 Safety Recall Report****15V-323****Manufacturer Name :** Subaru of America, Inc.**Submission Date :** MAY 28,2015**NHTSA Recall No. :** 15V-323**Manufacturer Recall No. :** WQR-53**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Subaru of America, Inc.

Address : P.O. Box 6000

Cherry Hill NJ 08034-6000

Company phone : 856-488-8500

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 81,100

Estimated percentage with defect : 0

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle : 2004-2004 Subaru Impreza

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

**Descriptive Information :** Information Regarding Manufacturer of Defective Component:

- Identification of Component: Front passenger airbag inflator
- Component Manufacturer: Takata Corporation
- Address: ARK Hills South Tower 11F 4-5 Roppongi 1-Chone, Minatoku, Tokyo 106-8488 Japan
- Phone Number: +81-3-3582-3222
- Component's Country of Origin: Mexico

Production Dates : JAN 28, 2003 - FEB 12, 2004

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2004-2004 Subaru Impreza

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : STATIONWAGON

Power Train : GAS

**Descriptive Information :** Information Regarding Manufacturer of Defective Component:

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- Phone Number: +81-3-3582-3222
- Component's Country of Origin: Mexico

Production Dates : JAN 28, 2003 - FEB 13, 2004

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2005-2005 Subaru Impreza

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Information Regarding Manufacturer of Defective Component:

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- Component Manufacturer: Takata Corporation
- Address: ARK Hills South Tower 11F 4-5 Roppongi 1-Chone, Minatoku, Tokyo 106-8488 Japan
- Phone Number: +81-3-3582-3222
- Component's Country of Origin: Mexico

Production Dates : FEB 16, 2004 - MAY 06, 2005

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2005-2005 Subaru Impreza

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : STATIONWAGON

Power Train : GAS

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- Component Manufacturer: Takata Corporation
- Address: ARK Hills South Tower 11F 4-5 Roppongi 1-Chone, Minatoku, Tokyo 106-8488 Japan
- Phone Number: +81-3-3582-3222
- Component's Country of Origin: Mexico

Production Dates : FEB 16, 2004 - MAY 31, 2005

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2005-2005 Saab 9-2x

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : STATIONWAGON

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Information Regarding Manufacturer of Defective Component:

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- Component Manufacturer: Takata Corporation
- Address: ARK Hills South Tower 11F 4-5 Roppongi 1-Chone, Minatoku, Tokyo 106-8488 Japan

- Phone Number: +81-3-3582-3222
- Component's Country of Origin: Mexico

Production Dates : FEB 11, 2004 - MAR 17, 2005

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

Not sequential VINs

**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : The subject vehicles are equipped with front passenger air bag SPI inflators which are described in a Part 573 Defect Information Report (NHTSA Recall No. 15E-041) submitted by Takata on May 18, 2015.

The propellant wafers in some of the subject inflators may experience an alteration over time, which could potentially lead to over-aggressive combustion in the event of an air bag deployment. Depending on the circumstances, this potential condition could create excessive internal pressure when the air bag is deployed, which could result in the body of the inflator rupturing upon deployment. Based upon Takata's investigation to date, the potential for such ruptures may occur in some of the subject inflators after several years of exposure to persistent conditions of high absolute humidity.

Takata is also aware of a potential issue associated with the inflator body internal tape seals on some SPI inflators. During its investigation, Takata observed a small number of tape seal leaks in SPI inflators manufactured prior to 2007. These leaks were discovered during leak testing in 2014, as part of the Takata returned-inflator evaluation program. Leaks have been found in SPI inflators returned from several of the vehicle manufacturers. Such a leak can increase the potential for moisture to reach the main propellant wafers, possibly in areas outside of the highest absolute humidity States.

Description of the Safety Risk : In the event of a crash necessitating deployment of the passenger side frontal air bag, the subject propellant wafers could cause the inflator to rupture with metal fragments striking and potentially seriously injuring the vehicle occupants.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

**Supplier Identification :**

**Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

**Chronology :**

July 3, 2014: Subaru submitted Part 573 Safety Recall Report for a known safety defect related to improperly manufactured propellant wafers used in certain front passenger airbag inflators (NHTSA Recall No. 14V-399; Subaru No. WQL-48).

August 19, 2014: Subaru notified NHTSA it was initiating a voluntary, regional parts collection campaign to cooperate with NHTSA and the Supplier's (TK Holdings, Inc./Takata) ongoing investigation of the risk of failure of the passenger airbag inflators installed on certain vehicles that are currently or have ever been registered in Florida, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands (NHTSA Recall No. 14V-471; Subaru No. WQM-49).

November 10, 2014: Takata submitted a Part 573 Safety Recall Report (NHTSA Recall No. 14E-073)

November 21, 2014: NHTSA suggested that Subaru consider moving from a voluntary campaign (NHTSA Recall No. 14V-471; Subaru No. WQM-49) to a Part 573 safety recall as well as expanding the geographic coverage.

November 25-26, 2014: NHTSA and Subaru had follow-up discussions regarding the information shared on November 21, 2014.

November 27, 2014: FHI concluded that Subaru will move from a voluntary campaign (NHTSA Recall No. 14V-471; Subaru No. WQM-49) to a Part 573 safety recall as well as expanding the geographic coverage.

May 18, 2015: Takata submitted a Part 573 Defect Information Report (NHTSA Recall No. 15E-041).

May 20, 2015: FHI concluded that Subaru will perform a safety recall in the U.S. market.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : The remedy plan calls for dealers to replace the passenger airbag inflator with a newly manufactured one.

This recall (Subaru No.: WQR-53) supersedes the previous recall campaign (NHTSA Recall No. 14V-763; Subaru No. WQP-51) for 2004-05 Subaru Impreza (including WRX/STI) and 2005 Saab 9-2x vehicles.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

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

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Subaru is in the process of obtaining updated registration data for all affected vehicles. Owner notification will be handled in multiple stages.

The initial stage will include recall notifications to owners of vehicles that were previously found in the registration search for 14V-763, plus any additional owners found in the updated registration search located in High Absolute Humidity states (FL, HI, PR, GU, VI, AL, GA, MS, TX, LA). All other owners affected by this recall will be sent a letter to advise them that their car is affected and that they will be notified again once sufficient parts supply is available.

Subsequent notifications will be sent to owners of vehicles based on the inflator production date, oldest to newest, until all owners in the remaining states are notified based on sufficient parts supply.

Dealers were first notified on May 20, 2015.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUL 27, 2015 - NR

\* NR - Not Reported