15V-450
Model Year 2014-2015 MINI Hardtop 2 Door Cooper Model
Side Impact Performance
(Amendment to and Expansion of 2014 Recall 14V-815)

Q1. Which models are affected by this recall?

Affected are certain Model Year 2014-2015 MINI Hardtop 2 Door Cooper model vehicles produced between December 2013 and March 2015.

Q1a. This sounds familiar. Was there a recall in 2014 on this issue?

There was a recall in 2014 that affected Model Year 2014 MINI Hardtop 2 Door Cooper models produced between December 2013 and May 2014. That Recall No. 14V-815 is now superseded by Recall No 15V-450 and those vehicles are included in this expanded recall.

Q1b. Why has the recall been expanded from the 2014 recall, i.e., why are these additional vehicles only being recalled now?

After a further review of our records, it was determined that additional vehicles may potentially be affected. As a result, we have included additional Model Year 2014 and 2015 MINI Hardtop 2 Door Cooper model vehicles. After the recall has been performed, all affected vehicles will have the same "level of construction".

Q1c. I received a letter for the 2014 recall? What do I have to do now?

If you received a letter for Recall No.14V-815, it informed you of the issue and stated that we were not ready to perform the recall. You will now receive a letter for this 2015 recall, which will supersede the letter you received for the 2014 recall. [Note: Only owners of vehicles produced from December 2013 to May 15, 2014 were previously notified.]

Q2. How many vehicles in the US are affected?

The number of vehicles affected in the US is approximately 15,653 model year 2014-2015 Cooper vehicles.

Q2a. How many vehicles in the US were affected in the 2014 recall?

The number of vehicles affected by the 2014 recall in the US was approximately 3,085 model year 2014 Cooper models. These vehicles are now included in the total of 15,653 as noted above.

Q3. What is the specific issue involving this recall?

This recall involves the side impact performance. Due to vehicle build variation, some of the vehicles may marginally exceed a NHTSA test requirement.

Q4. What can happen as a result of this issue?

Rear seat passengers could be at a slightly higher risk of injury in a severe side impact.

Q5. Why are other vehicles / models not affected?

Other vehicles / models have a different construction.

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All MINI Hardtop 2 Door vehicles produced March 9, 2015 and later are equipped with the system that will be installed as the repair for this recall. Other MINI models, e.g. the MINI Cooper Countryman, are a different design and construction, and therefore are not affected.

Q6. Can I become aware of this issue if it is occurring?

No.

Q7. What corrective measures will be taken?

Affected vehicles will have additional energy absorbing material added between the vehicle's rear interior side panel and the body. Please note that this modification will not be visible to occupants inside, or outside, the vehicle.

Q8. How did MINI become aware of this issue?

MINI became aware of this issue from our quality control procedures and as a result of a NHTSA test.

Q9. Are you aware of any accidents or injuries associated with the recall?

No.

Q10. Can I continue to drive my vehicle?

Yes, but when you receive a letter asking you to have this service performed, please do so as soon as possible. You will receive a letter in August informing you of this issue. If you are not the only driver of this vehicle, please advise all other drivers of this important information.

Q11. How will I be informed of the recall?

You will receive a letter via First Class mail informing you of this issue and asking you to schedule an appointment with an authorized MINI dealer.

Q12. How will the recall be performed?

Affected vehicles will have additional energy absorbing material added between the vehicle's rear interior side panel and the body. Please note that this modification will not be visible to occupants inside, or outside, the vehicle.

Q13. How long will the update take?

The update may take approximately four hours; however, additional time may be required depending upon the MINI dealer's schedule. The update will be performed free of charge by your authorized MINI dealer.

Q14. How many vehicles in the US have experienced this issue?

We are not aware of any vehicles affected by this condition.

Q15. When will I receive my owner notification letter?

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You will receive a letter in August informing you of this issue. If you are not the only driver of this vehicle, please advise all other drivers of this important information.

Q16. Do I have to wait for my recall letter in order to have the update performed?

Yes. We are in the process of implementing the recall campaign to ensure that the necessary parts and procedures are at the authorized MINI dealers prior to requesting that you have the update performed.

REFERENCE INFORMATION:

Vehicle Population	Veh Pop A	Veh Pop B	Veh Pop C
Model Years (Production Dates)	MY2014 (Dec 2013 – mid-May 2014)	MY2014-15 (mid-May 2014 – mid-Dec 2014)	MY2015 (mid-Dec 2014 – March 6, 2015)
15V-450 Recall ("Patch") Per M51 09 14	✓	✗	✗
15V-034 Recall ("Label") Per M71 01 15	✓	✓	✗
15V-450 Recall ("L-Pad") Per M51 04 15	✓	✓	✓