



This Service Information bulletin supersedes SI B65 14 14 dated July 2015.

Changes to this revision are identified by a black bar.

SUBJECT

Recall Campaign 15V-318: Driver-Side Front Airbag Module (Final Repair)

MODEL

E46 (3 Series)
E39 (5 Series)
E53 (X5)

Model Year 2002-2006

SITUATION

BMW has converted its previous national improvement campaign 14V-348 to a voluntary safety recall. NHTSA has assigned recall # 15V-318 to this campaign.

On May 19, 2015, NHTSA announced that Takata determined a defect may exist in certain vehicles with driver-side front airbags manufactured by Takata. BMW reviewed this information and determined that the following BMW vehicles are affected:

1. Certain Model Year 2002-2006 BMW 3 Series (E46) produced between January 2002 and August 2006.
2. Certain Model Year 2002-2003 5 Series (E39) equipped with the optional sport steering wheel and produced between March 2002 and July 2003, and
3. Model Year 2003-2004 X5 Sport Activity Vehicles equipped with the optional sport steering wheel and produced between February 2003 and October 2003.

The attached interim letter was mailed out to customers in July 2015, informing them that their vehicle is affected by this Recall, but we are not ready for the customer to visit your center for the final repair due to parts availability.

For your reference, an updated Q&A has been attached.

This bulletin will be updated with final repair instructions, parts and warranty information when it becomes available, currently expected in late Quarter 1 of 2016.

Please contact your field representatives if you have any questions.

BACKGROUND

June 2014 through May 2015: BMW conducted an Improvement Campaign per SI B65 14 14, performed in cooperation with and at the request of NHTSA, replacing the driver-side front airbag on Model Year 2004-2006 3 Series, produced from January 2004.

May 2015: The driver-side front airbag campaign became Safety Recall 15V-318, expanding the affected vehicle population and models in the US to approximately 420,661 vehicles.

This new Recall has no effect or impact on the ongoing Recall to replace the passenger-side front airbag module, per SI B65 17 14. All affected customers have been notified and parts are available for your center to conduct the Recall for the passenger-side front airbag.

July 2015: BMW mailed the attached interim letter to customers in July 2015, informing them that their vehicle is affected by this Recall, but we are not ready for the customer to visit your center for the final repair.

NHTSA and BMW agreed that BMW would notify certain affected owners in connection with Safety Recall No. 15V-318 to install a new airbag module in such vehicles as an interim repair. The new module would have a significantly reduced failure risk compared to an aged module. Vehicles receiving the interim repair would still need to receive the final repair, once it becomes available.

August 2015: BMW mailed letters to owners of certain affected vehicles in Florida, Hawaii and Puerto Rico to notify these residents in high absolute humidity areas of the availability of an interim repair. The interim repair procedure is documented in SI B65 11 15.

SPECIAL CUSTOMER SITUATIONS

In the event your customer's VIN is not currently eligible for the interim repair but your customer is requesting it or alternate transportation, you can request a special case review by BMW Customer Relations.

In the event of such a situation, please e-mail Interimrepair@BMWUSA.com with the VIN, customer contact information and your Dealer name & Dealer #. A Customer Relations representative will reply to you within 2-3 business days regarding our decision.