



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**National Highway Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

January 26, 2016

Mr. Mike Rains  
Takata Corporation  
2500 Takata Drive  
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

NVS-215MR  
16E-005

**Subject:** Driver's Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

Dear Mr. Rains:

This letter serves to acknowledge Takata Corporation'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:**

TAKATA/PSDI-5 INFLATOR/9999

**Mfr's Report Date:** January 25, 2016

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 16E-005

**Components:**

AIR BAGS:FRONTAL:DRIVER SIDE INFLATOR MODULE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 3,900,000

**Problem Description:**

Takata Corporation (Takata) is recalling certain PSDI-5 air bag inflators manufactured from start of production (January 1, 2003), through production impacting up through model year 2014 vehicles, assembled as part of the driver-side frontal air bag modules in certain Audi, BMW, Honda, Mercedes-Benz, Saab, Toyota and Volkswagen vehicles. These inflators, used as original or replacement equipment during service, may rupture from exposure to persistent conditions of high absolute humidity and/or due to manufacturing variability.

**Consequence:**

In the event of a crash necessitating deployment of the driver's frontal air bag, the inflator could rupture with metal fragments striking the vehicle occupants potentially resulting in serious injury or death.

**Remedy:**

Takata will be working with vehicle manufacturers to identify into which vehicles the affected inflators were installed either as original or replacement equipment during service. As this work progresses, numerous vehicle recalls will likely be announced by the impacted vehicle manufacturers. NHTSA will supply this information as soon as possible. NOTE: Toyota has already launched a recall campaign to address their vehicles under recall number 15V-284. Additionally, inflators installed as part of a prior recall remedy are not affected by this recall.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

This recall was the subject of an engineering analysis, EA15-001, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall 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).

We understand that Takata will not be conducting this safety recall and that all quarterly recall completion rate reporting will be submitted by the affected vehicle manufacturers that may be conducting safety recalls.

Your contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at 202-366-1060, or by email at [michelle.rice@dot.gov](mailto:michelle.rice@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement