



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-006

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/SDI INFLATOR/9999

Mfr's Report Date: January 25, 2016

NHTSA Campaign Number: 16E-006

Components:
AIR BAGS:FRONTAL:DRIVER SIDE INFLATOR MODULE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,200,000

Problem Description:

Takata Corporation (Takata) is recalling certain SDI driver-side air bag inflators manufactured from start of production (January 1, 2002) through production impacting up through model year 2014 vehicles, and assembled as part of the driver-side frontal air bag modules in certain Audi, Ford, Mazda, Sprinter 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: Ford has already launched a recall campaign to remedy their affected vehicles under recall number 16V-036.

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.



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 or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Timian", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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