



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

August 22, 2016

Ms. Helen Riehle
Safety Integrity and Recall Manager
BMW of North America, LLC
300 Chestnut Ridge Road
Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677

NEF-150TB
16V-553

Subject: Side Air Bag may Deploy Improperly/FMVSS 226

Dear Ms. Riehle:

This letter serves to acknowledge BMW of North America, LLC'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:

MINI/CLUBMAN/2016-2017

Mfr's Report Date: July 21, 2016

NHTSA Campaign Number: 16V-553

Components:

AIR BAGS:SIDE/WINDOW

Potential Number of Units Affected: 7,810

Problem Description:

BMW of North America, LLC (BMW) is recalling certain model year 2016-2017 MINI Clubman vehicles manufactured August 19, 2015, through July 14, 2016. The side curtain air bags for the front seat occupants may not deploy in the intended positions in the event of a crash. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 226, "Ejection Mitigation."

Consequence:

If a side curtain air bag does not inflate as intended in the event of a crash, there is an increased risk of injury to the front seat occupants.

Remedy:

BMW will notify owners, and dealers will modify the driver and passenger side curtain air bag covers, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin September 12, 2016. Owners may contact MINI customer relations at 1-866-825-1525 or email MINI at MINI.Assistance@askminiusa.com.

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.

We have received BMW's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Tariq Bond who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-5472, or by email at tariq.bond@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 "Jennifer Timian".

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