

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 16V-311

**Manufacturer Name :** BMW of North America, LLC**Submission Date :** JUN 22, 2016**NHTSA Recall No. :** 16V-311**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : BMW of North America, LLC

Address : P.O. Box 1227

Westwood NJ 07675-1227

Company phone : 18005257417

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 21,493

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2011-2011 BMW X5 xDrive35i, X5 xDrive50i, X5 M

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Approximately 13,728 vehicles have been equipped with a front driveshaft whose universal joint contains a seal that may have been manufactured out-of-specification.

Production Dates : APR 05, 2010 - NOV 20, 2010

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2011-2011 BMW X5 xDrive35d

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : DIESEL

Descriptive Information : Approximately 4,436 vehicles have been equipped with a front driveshaft whose universal joint contains a seal that may have been manufactured out-of-specification.

Production Dates : APR 07, 2010 - NOV 20, 2010

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2011-2011 BMW X6 xDrive35i, X6 xDrive50i, X6 M

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Approximately 3,300 vehicles have been equipped with a front driveshaft whose universal joint contains a seal that may have been manufactured out-of-specification.

Production Dates : APR 05, 2010 - NOV 20, 2010

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2011-2011 BMW X6 ActiveHybrid

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : Approximately 29 vehicles have been equipped with a front driveshaft whose universal joint contains a seal that may have been manufactured out-of-specification.

Production Dates : APR 15, 2010 - NOV 17, 2010

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : This safety recall involves the front driveshaft. On approximately 21,493 vehicles, the contact surface between the spider and the seal of the front driveshaft's universal joint may be out-of-specification. In rare cases, water and/or dirt may enter the universal joint and, over time, lead to corrosion resulting in noise or vibration. After prolonged driving under such conditions, the universal joint may eventually break.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Should the universal joint break, the drive torque is no longer transmitted to the front wheels. However, the rear drivetrain remains operational and transmits all drive torque to the rear axle comparable to rear wheel drive BMW vehicles. In an extreme case, after prolonged operation of the vehicle with a broken universal joint, damage could occur to adjacent components, which, under certain exceptional circumstances, could eventually render the vehicle inoperative. Depending on traffic conditions and the driver reactions, this could increase the risk of a collision.

Description of the Cause : A manufacturing variation occurred in the critical contour area of the sealing ring contact face.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The driver will initially be alerted by noise from the area of the front drivetrain. Over time, this noise will increase along with vibration.

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : IFA Rotorion North America LLC

Address : 9770 Patriot Blvd Suite 100

Ladson SOUTH CAROLINA 29456

Country : United States

**Chronology :**

In April 2014, BMW implemented a worldwide Service Action to inspect and, if necessary replace the front driveshaft on certain Model Year 2011 vehicles affected by this issue. Subsequent to the release of the Service Action, the Japanese Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MLIT) held discussions with BMW.

On July 24, 2014, BMW proactively met with NHTSA to discuss this issue and, on July 29th, BMW submitted a Part 579 Foreign Safety Recall Report involving vehicles in Japan because possible damage of the universal joint would not comply with Japanese legal regulations.

In August 2015, as a customer satisfaction initiative, BMW implemented an Extended Warranty Program involving Model Year 2011, 2012 and 2013 (2014 BMW X6 SAC only) vehicles produced from April 2010 to April 2013.

In late March 2016, an increase in consumer complaints had occurred. In April 2016, BMW conducted further analysis of the relevant vehicle population. In addition, BMW had subsequent discussions with NHTSA about the findings of the analysis and associated safety risk.

Based on these discussion, BMW decided on May 9, 2016 to conduct a voluntary safety recall for vehicles which were part of the 2014 Service Action that did not receive a front driveshaft replacement.

BMW has not received any reports, nor is BMW otherwise aware, of any injuries or fatalities related to this issue.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : The front driveshaft will be replaced.

How Remedy Component Differs  
from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition  
was Corrected in Production : NR

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : NR

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAY 13, 2016 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUL 01, 2016 - NR

\* NR - Not Reported