

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 16V-647

**Manufacturer Name :** Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.**Submission Date :** OCT 17, 2016**NHTSA Recall No. :** 16V-647**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 20Y6/20Y5**Manufacturer Information :****Population :**

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Number of potentially involved : 110,042

Address : 3800 Hamlin Road

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Auburn Hills MI 48326

Company phone : 1-800-893-5298

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2015-2016 Audi A3 Cabriolet

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : ALL

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : A3 Cabriolet: 1,975  
1.8T FWD

Production Dates : JUN 06, 2014 - FEB 18, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAU5CLFF2F1023290 End : WAU57LFF5G1085238  Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2015-2016 Audi A3 Sedan

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : A3 Sedan: 26,000  
1.8T

Production Dates : NOV 28, 2013 - FEB 24, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUCCGFF0F1000668 End : WAUA7GFF5G1086590  Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2015-2016 Volkswagen Golf

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Golf: 25,890  
1.8T

Production Dates : MAR 28, 2014 - MAR 15, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 3VW217AU9FM000730 End : 3VW217AU4GM051716  Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2015-2016 Volkswagen GTI

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : GTI: 45,495  
1.8T

Production Dates : DEC 06, 2013 - MAR 16, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 3VW4T7AU4FM000072 End : 3VW4T7AU8GM051723  Not sequential

Vehicle 5 : 2015-2016 Volkswagen Golf SportWagen

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Golf SportWagen: 10,682  
1.8T

Production Dates : OCT 21, 2014 - MAR 11, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 3VW217AUXFM500122 End : 3VWC17AU8GM520083  Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The suction pump inside the fuel tank designed to purge fuel from the Evaporative Emissions (EVAP) system may be compromised resulting in fuel flowing directly into the EVAP system. If this happens, fuel could accumulate in the EVAP system and leak through the charcoal canister filter element.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Leaking fuel, in the presence of an ignition source, may result in a fire.

Description of the Cause : Due to a manufacturing issue, seal rings inside a suction pump in the fuel tank were assembled with too much tension. This could have pre-damaged the seals, potentially leading to fuel ingress into the EVAP system. Should the EVAP system be flooded, fuel could leak through the charcoal canister filter element.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Customers could experience re-fueling issues (early stopping fuel nozzles, spillback) when fuel accumulated in the EVAP system. Fuel smell may also be noticed by the driver/vehicle occupants.

**Supplier Identification :****Component Manufacturer**

Name : ALFMEIER PRÄZISION AG  
Address : Industriestr. 5  
Treuchtlingen FOREIGN STATES 91757  
Country : Germany

**Chronology :**

July/Aug 2015: First failures were reported from the field and investigation was initiated.  
Oct/Nov. 2015: Decrease of reported failures was noted and early failure of a limited number of components assumed. Failures were traced to automatic assembly process at supplier, possibly pre-damaging seal rings.  
Nov 2015: Assembly process was changed at supplier, field monitoring concluded.  
Apr/May 2016: Increase of failures observed in the field. Vast majority reported from Puerto Rico. Analysis initiated as to why only Puerto Rico seems affected.  
June/July 2016: High amount of aromatic compounds in Puerto Rico fuel identified as cause for excess failures. Additional failures observed in mainland USA.  
August 26, 2016: The matter was brought to Volkswagen's product safety committee and the presence of a defect was determined.  
August 29, 2016: The matter was brought to Audi's product safety committee and the presence of a defect was determined.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : The potentially affected suction pump inside the fuel tank will be replaced. Reimbursement should not occur as vehicles are still covered under New Vehicle Limited Warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Supplier has changed from automated to careful manual assembly which removed the risk of pre-damage during assembly.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Parts went into Audi vehicle production in February 2016 and Volkswagen implemented into vehicle production in March 2016.

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Due to part supply limitations, VWGoA will stagger the mailing in waves reaching from South to North due to temperature influence on failure rate. Rollout of Customer notification for repairs planned to begin 10/31/2016; interim customer notifications also planned to begin 10/31/2016.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : OCT 12, 2016 - OCT 12, 2016  
Planned Owner Notification Date : OCT 31, 2016 - DEC 23, 2016

\* NR - Not Reported