

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 17V-001

**Manufacturer Name :** Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

**Submission Date :** JAN 03, 2017

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 17V-001

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 69P1



## Manufacturer Information :

## Population :

**Manufacturer Name :** Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

**Number of potentially involved :** 234,054

**Address :** 3800 Hamlin Road

**Estimated percentage with defect :** NR

Auburn Hills MI 48326

**Company phone :** 1-800-893-5298

## Vehicle Information :

**Vehicle 1 :** 2011-2017 Audi Q5

**Vehicle Type :**

**Body Style :**

**Power Train :** NR

**Descriptive Information :** Audi Q5: 234,054

**Production Dates :** MAY 28, 2010 - AUG 13, 2016

**VIN Range 1 : Begin :** WA1LFBFP2BA000875 **End :** WA1M2AFP3HA030793  Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** If the water drainage system of the panoramic sunroof becomes damaged or impaired, e.g. during a repair, water could enter the side head curtain airbag canister. Due to a foam that is touching the airbag inflator, moisture could cause corrosion on the airbag inflator over time. If this happens, the airbag canister could fracture without airbag deployment, propelling fragments into the passenger compartment, striking and causing serious injury to vehicle occupants.

**FMVSS 1 :** NR

**FMVSS 2 :** NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** A corroded airbag inflator could fracture without airbag deployment, propelling fragments into the passenger compartment, striking and causing serious injury to vehicle occupants.

**Description of the Cause :** If the water drainage system of the panoramic sunroof is impaired, water could enter a side head curtain airbag canister, causing corrosion over time. The side head airbag curtain canister is helium-filled.

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** None

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : iSi Automotive Austria GmbH  
Address : Scheydgasse 32-32  
Vienna FOREIGN STATES A-1210  
Country : Austria

## Chronology :

- June 14, 2016: Incident reported by FAW-VW (joint venture partner)
- June 21, 2016: Inspection of the vehicle in China by FAW-VW and iSi experts
- June 23, 2016: Results presented to the Product Safety Committee
- July 2016 - ongoing:
  - Affected vehicle produced by FAW-VW: buy-back in China for further investigation took five months; analysis of inflators, surrounding material (foam) and possible outside influences
  - General investigation of construction, history, approval process, supplier change, comparison to other vehicles and inflators, root cause (water ingress)
  - Identification and testing of preventive measure in production, decision for implementation (Germany production July 25, 2016, China production Aug 8, 2016)
  - Elaborate field analysis in China and Germany, buyback of several vehicles for even more detailed analysis
  - Evaluation of influencing factors in local production in China (e.g. locally sourced foam)
  - Assessment of field analysis, evaluation of potential remedies for vehicles in the market
- November 11, 2016: Incident reported in Israel (vehicle produced by Audi AG)
- November 16, 2016: Inspection of the vehicle in Israel by an AUDI AG expert
- November 20, 2016: China vehicle finally bought back after 5 months due to Chinese vehicle registration processes - ongoing elaborate analysis of the car
- November 2016 – ongoing: Determination of repair procedure for dealers
- December 21, 2016: Meeting with NHTSA on this issue
- December 23, 2016: Determination of a defect by the Product Safety Committee

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Inspect vehicle for evidence of water ingress, examination of drainage system, disassembly of headliner and trim. Remove foam and inspect side head curtain airbag canister for relevant corrosion.

- In case of light surface corrosion a wax will be applied to the inflator.
- In case of more than light surface corrosion, the inflator will be replaced after a robustness check.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Headliner foam piece will be removed. Corroded canister will be replaced.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : In July 2016, the production process was modified to include a plastic sleeve over the side head airbag curtain canister.

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers/customer notification planned for February 2017  
Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR  
Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

\* NR - Not Reported