Safety Recall 17V-138 Model Year 2011-2014 BMW X5 SAV, X6 SAC, X6 ActiveHybrid Front Driveshaft Part 573 Chronology 2 Mar 2017 (Rev.1- 25 May 2017)

Please refer to BMW's May 13, 2016 Part 573 report assigned NHTSA Recall ID 16V-311.

Since May 2016, BMW continued to monitor the field, and noticed an increase in the number of warranty claims involving cases where vehicle components adjacent to the front driveshaft were damaged, in some cases eventually rendering the vehicle inoperative. Analyses were conducted to determine if the increase in warranty claims was due to factors other than the front driveshaft's universal joint sealing system, i.e., factors which could result in the susceptibility for excessive wear and/or corrosion to occur to the driveshaft's universal joint.

Starting in mid-2016, field parts were returned for analysis. The driveshaft, its sealing system, bearings, and damage to broken parts were analyzed. Vehicle specific parameters, such as age and mileage, mass, engine power and torque, and load distribution front/rear, were examined. Vehicle operating and environmental conditions, such as driving behavior, dirt contamination / road conditions, were also examined. These efforts continued through February 2017.

In August 2016, as well as in October, November and December, engineering reviews were conducted with the supplier pertaining to product design and production processes to determine root cause.

The analyses led to the conclusion that the front driveshaft sealing system of vehicles produced from December 2010 onwards were similarly affected as those identified in BMW's May 13, 2016 report.

Production and manufacturing records were examined in order to determine the quantity and production date range of potentially affected vehicles.

On February 23, 2017, BMW decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall for additional vehicles.

In early May, a vehicle that had been produced in March 2010 was reported as having the defect that is the subject of this recall. Accordingly, a review and analysis of vehicle production records was performed. It was determined that additional vehicles produced before the production start date originally identified in 17V-138 were also affected. On May 18, 2017, BMW decided to conduct a voluntary recall for the additional vehicles.

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