

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

18V-284

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Submission Date : MAY 22, 2018

NHTSA Recall No. : 18V-284

Manufacturer Recall No. : 20AW



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Address : 3800 Hamlin Road

Auburn Hills MI 48326

Company phone : 1-800-893-5298

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 278

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2018-2018 Volkswagen Atlas

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Fuel tanks built in a limited timeframe may be manufactured with an insufficient wall-thickness. Analysis determined that recalled parts were produced during a limited timeframe due to an production problem at the supplier YAPP, that was corrected by using correct pre-material. The remedy parts have part number 3QF.201.055.F. (tank only without internal components) and are produced outside the recalled time frame.

Production Dates : APR 27, 2017 - JUN 20, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin : 1V2NR2CA0JC504834 End : 1V2MR2CA5JC507434 Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Fuel may leak from the fuel tank.

FMVSS 1 : 301 - Fuel system integrity

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 : Undetected material starvation during the manufacturing process of the fuel tank, resulting in "thin-spots" in the tank wall.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Customers may recognize fuel odor or see a fuel puddle under the vehicle.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : YAPP USA AUTOMOTIVE SYSTEMS, INC.
Address : 800 Kirts Blvd
Troy MICHIGAN 48084
Country : United States

Chronology :

November 22, 2017: The topic was originally presented in Volkswagen's Product Safety Committee and a determination of defect was made.

November 29, 2017: Based upon the initial information from the supplier, vehicles with fuel tanks built in a certain time period were recalled (NHTSA recall 17V-766).

December 2017-April 2018: To verify that the original scope of the recall population was sufficient, Volkswagen initiated an analysis program of returned fuel tanks. Initial investigation had showed material starvation, but the cause of the starvation was still under investigation.

April 2018: After additional n.OK (not o.k.) tanks were discovered via the analysis program, the supplier then disclosed that in the days prior to May 11, 2017 (the original suspect day of production), the supplier had received a shipment of raw material in which the size of the plastic pellets was out of specification. This was then determined to be the cause of the material starvation issue, which necessitated the expansion of the recall population.

April 25, 2018: the topic was again presented in Volkswagen's Product Safety Committee and a determination of defect for additional vehicles was made.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Replace fuel tank in affected vehicles. Because all affected vehicles are still covered under New Vehicle Limited Warranty, no reimbursement program is planned for this recall.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The recalled part is the fuel tank assembly with part number 3QF.201.021. AD. This is a factory-only part number as the fuel tank is shipped to the assembly factory as a complete assembly (with internal components). The remedy parts have part number 3QF.201.055.F (tank only without internal components) and are produced outside the recalled time frame.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : May 11, 2017: variations in pellet size determined as root cause for issue by the supplier. Issue was resolved in production May 14, 2017 with new pre material batch and fully stable process.
Following measures were implemented by supplier:
September 28, 2017: 100% wall thickness test of the suspect area as an interim solution.
October 05, 2017: Weighing of Tank and Waste Flash together to determine total material present during the tank build.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers anticipated May 2018
Customers anticipated June 2018
Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAY 31, 2018 - MAY 31, 2018
Planned Owner Notification Date : JUN 15, 2018 - JUN 15, 2018

* NR - Not Reported