

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

18V-370

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Submission Date : NOV 16, 2018

NHTSA Recall No. : 18V-370

Manufacturer Recall No. : 74D5



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 : 139,249

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2013-2015 Audi S6

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based upon the affected seat type using the affected PODS sensing system (construction level PR-code • Q1A+4D0 basic seat without climatic / • Q4Q super-sport seat). Vehicles without this type of seat are excluded from the recall.

Production Dates : JUN 25, 2012 - DEC 18, 2014

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUJ2AFC4DN019680 End : WAUF2AFC5FN047481 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2013-2015 Audi S7

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based upon the affected seat type using the affected PODS sensing system (construction level PR-code • Q1A+4D0 basic seat without climatic / • Q4Q super-sport seat). Vehicles without this type of seat are excluded from the recall.

Production Dates : JUN 27, 2012 - FEB 12, 2015

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUW2AFC2DN018839 End : WAUW2AFC6FN064337 Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2016-2018 Audi S6

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based upon the affected seat type using the affected PODS sensing system (construction level PR-code • Q1A+4D0 basic seat without climatic / • Q4Q super-sport seat). Vehicles without this type of seat are

excluded from the recall.

Production Dates : FEB 06, 2015 - APR 26, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUF2AFC7GN006092 End : WAUHFAFC8JN110708 Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2016-2018 Audi S7

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based upon the affected seat type using the affected PODS sensing system (construction level PR-code • Q1A+4D0 basic seat without climatic / • Q4Q super-sport seat). Vehicles without this type of seat are excluded from the recall.

Production Dates : FEB 07, 2015 - MAR 23, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUW2AFCXGN006121 End : WAU2FAFCXJN102986 Not sequential

Vehicle 5 : 2016-2018 Audi A7

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based upon the affected seat type using the affected PODS sensing system (construction level PR-code • Q1A+4D0 basic seat without climatic / • Q4Q super-sport seat). Vehicles without this type of seat are excluded from the recall.

Production Dates : OCT 31, 2014 - APR 06, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUWGAF9GN000599 End : WAUW3AFC9JN103413 Not sequential

Vehicle 6 : 2016-2018 Audi A6 Sedan

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based upon the affected seat type using the affected PODS sensing system (construction level PR-code • Q1A+4D0 basic seat without climatic / • Q4Q super-sport seat). Vehicles without this type of seat are excluded from the recall.

Production Dates : OCT 29, 2014 - APR 30, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUFMAFC6GN000598 End : WAUG3AFC2JN110921 Not sequential

Vehicle 7 : 2012-2015 Audi A7

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based upon the affected seat type using the affected PODS sensing system (construction level PR-code • Q1A+4D0 basic seat without climatic / • Q4Q super-sport seat). Vehicles without this type of seat are

excluded from the recall.

Production Dates : JAN 27, 2011 - JAN 31, 2015

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUSGAF5CN000933 End : WAUWGAF5CFN058476 Not sequential

Vehicle 8 : 2012-2015 Audi A6 Sedan

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based upon the affected seat type using the affected PODS sensing system (construction level PR-code • Q1A+4D0 basic seat without climatic / • Q4Q super-sport seat). Vehicles without this type of seat are excluded from the recall.

Production Dates : APR 04, 2011 - DEC 23, 2014

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUAF5FC1CN002290 End : WAUGF5FC2FN050394 Not sequential

Vehicle 9 : 2014-2018 Audi RS7

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based upon the affected seat type using the affected PODS sensing system (construction level PR-code • Q1A+4D0 basic seat without climatic / • Q4Q super-sport seat). Vehicles without this type of seat are excluded from the recall.

Production Dates : JUL 25, 2013 - APR 04, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WUAW2AFC2EN900343 End : WUAWRAFC5JN903064 Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : In affected vehicles with normal basic seats (Q1A heated and without), the Passenger Occupant Detection System (PODS) control module can malfunction due to stress/wear factors affecting an internal connector or contact resistance increase at body-sensing mat in the seat. Should a malfunction occur, vehicle occupants will be alerted of a PODS system problem by illumination of the airbag monitoring light and by the status of the Passenger Airbag OFF indicator light. In this situation, a front passenger seat occupant risks injury in a crash because a malfunctioning PODS system may not make the correct airbag deployment decision for the type of occupant seated there.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : A front passenger seat occupant risks injury in a crash because a malfunctioning PODS system may not make the correct airbag deployment decision for the type of occupant seated there

Description of the Cause : Stress/wear factors affecting an internal connector and/or a body-sensing mat in the seat.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Should a malfunction occur, vehicle occupants will be alerted of a PODS system problem by illumination of the airbag monitoring light and by the status of the Passenger Airbag OFF indicator light. In this situation, a front passenger seat occupant risks injury in a crash because a malfunctioning PODS system may not make the correct airbag deployment decision for the type of occupant seated there.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Lear Corporation GmbH

Address : Ferdinand-Porsche-Straße 2
74354 Besigheim FOREIGN STATES 74354

Country : Germany

Chronology :

- September 14, 2016: Due to an increase in failure claims, the topic was escalated to the Audi AG Product Safety Committee. Parts collection for further investigation was tasked.
- October 2016 – April 2017: Extended parts investigation to define/identify root cause. Collection of failed parts from the field.
- May 2017: First parts received in Germany for analysis.
- June 2017 – March 2018: Detailed investigation, parts analysis, testing and validation of possible influences with inconsistent results at AUDI AG and at the supplier of the body-sense mat; in parallel with development and validation of improved parts.
 - o December 05, 2017: Job definition for providing a service solution and monitoring field complaints at the matter (as possible lifetime requirement).
- March – May 2018: Further investigations regarding the root cause and failure mode were conducted.
 - o March 2018: Supplier finished analysis; provided analysis along with microscope pictures which were presented to the Audi AG Product Safety Committee. As the root cause could still not be determined and the failure mode could not be reproduced, additional tests were tasked.
 - o May 28, 2018: Audi AG Product Safety Committee decided to conduct a safety recall, based on further case monitoring, in addition to review and assessment of VOQ activity.
- Date of determination: May 28, 2018

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Install a PODS system repair kit. Volkswagen will be offering a reimbursement program under this recall.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The recall remedy component is different from the recalled component in that the new part has a protective cover for improved durability. The recalled part numbers are Body Sense Mat, part numbers 4G0 963 555 B and 4G0 963 553A. The recall remedy part numbers are Body Sense Mat, part numbers 4G0 963 553J and 4G0 963 553K.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : A new body sense mat was introduced into production on April 23, 2018 with VIN WAUF8AFC0JN110820.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Owner Interim notifications took place on July 31 ,2018 Dealers notification for recall repair available is targeted for November 19,2018, and recall repairs are planned to start on on November 20, 2018. Owner notification for recall repair available is scheduled to begin on November 26, 2018.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 19, 2018 - NOV 19, 2018

Planned Owner Notification Date : NOV 26, 2018 - NOV 27, 2018

* NR - Not Reported