

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

19V-493

Manufacturer Name : Subaru of America, Inc.

Submission Date : JUN 26, 2019

NHTSA Recall No. : 19V-493

Manufacturer Recall No. : WUH-93



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Subaru of America, Inc.

Address : One Subaru Drive

Camden NJ 08103

Company phone : 844-373-6614

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 2,107

Estimated percentage with defect : 12 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2019-2019 Subaru Legacy

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : -Description of the issue: Certain spot welds, located on the duct below the cowl panel, may not have been properly applied during part production.

-The basis for how the recall population was determined: Vehicles potentially equipped with an affected duct were identified using vehicle production records.

-How the recalled products differ from products that were not included in the recall: Vehicles equipped with a properly welded duct are not affected.

The recall population includes certain 2019 model year Legacy vehicles. The number of affected Legacy vehicles is 142.

Production Dates : MAY 31, 2019 - JUN 05, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2019-2019 Subaru Outback

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : -Description of the issue: Certain spot welds, located on the duct below the cowl panel, may not have been properly applied during part production.

-The basis for how the recall population was determined: Vehicles potentially equipped with an affected duct were identified using vehicle production records.

-How the recalled products differ from products that were not included in the recall: Vehicles equipped with a properly welded duct are not affected.

The recall population includes certain 2019 model year Outback vehicles. The number of affected Outback vehicles is 1,965.

Production Dates : MAY 31, 2019 - JUN 06, 2019

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Certain spot welds, located on the duct below the cowl panel, may not have been properly applied during production.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Potentially affected vehicles may have a long-term reduction in body strength. In the event of a crash, vehicle structure may not perform as designed, increasing the risk of injury.

Description of the Cause : During the manufacturing process at the supplier's factory, the spot-welder tip is cleaned and re-shaped by a dresser (grinding machine). During production of potentially affected parts, the grinding machine may have been blocked by excess metal chips/powder, thus reducing the effectiveness of the welder.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Austin Tri-Hawk Automotive, Inc.

Address : 2001 W. Just Industrial Parkway
P.O. Box 40 Austin INDIANA 47102

Country : United States

Chronology :

June 6, 2019 – During the installation process of the duct into vehicle body at Subaru's U.S. production plant, a body shop employee heard an abnormal noise from the duct area. Upon closer examination, it was observed that certain spot welds, located on the duct below the cowl panel, may not have been properly applied. The issue was escalated within Subaru, and the supplier was informed of the condition.

June 7, 2019 – Supplier determined the root cause of the issue and traced to a welder located on the B manufacturing line.

June 7, 2019 – June 20, 2019 - Subaru traced the potentially affected duct to a vehicle manufacturing period of

May 31, 2019 through June 8, 2019. Vehicles produced on June 7-8, 2019 were quarantined at the manufacturing facility and inspected.

June 21, 2019 – Subaru decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : For all the affected vehicles, Subaru dealers will inspect the duct for the “B” line identification mark. If the part was produced on the affected line, the spot-welds will be inspected by a Subaru manufacturer’s representative. If certain spot-welds are improperly applied, the vehicle will be returned to the vehicle manufacturing facility for repair. If a customer vehicle is confirmed as containing an affected part, the customer will have the option of exchanging the vehicle, repurchase, or having the vehicle returned to the manufacturing facility for repair at no cost.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : There are no remedy components. Affected vehicles will have the welds inspected, and if improperly applied, will be remedied at the manufacturing facility.

Recalled Component Name: DUCT COMPL SIA
Recalled Component Description: Duct completion
Recalled Component Part numbers: 51121AL00A

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The supplier cleaned the grinding machine, changed the welding tip, and implemented procedures to prevent recurrence on June 7, 2019.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Owner notification will occur within 60 days. Dealer notification is scheduled to begin on or about June 24, 2019.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUN 26, 2019 - JUL 01, 2019

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUL 26, 2019 - JUL 26, 2019

* NR - Not Reported