

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

19V-851

Manufacturer Name : BMW of North America, LLC**Submission Date :** DEC 03, 2019**NHTSA Recall No. :** 19V-851**Manufacturer Recall No. :** NR**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : BMW of North America, LLC

Address : P.O. Box 1227

Westwood NJ 07675-1227

Company phone : 18005257417

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 7,910

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 1999-1999 BMW 323i, 328i

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Approximately 7,910 vehicles are equipped with a driver front air bag module containing a single-stage Non-Azide Driver Inflator (NADI) manufactured by Takata at one specific inflator production facility. Information provided by Joyson Safety Systems (JSS) indicated an improvement to the inflator design was made on 3/15/1999. Vehicles produced with inflators before this change may contain a suspect inflator.

Basis for recall population determination: Vehicle production information was reviewed to determine the potentially affected vehicle population based upon the vehicles involved in the field incidents which all contained inflators produced during a specific production time period at one specific Takata inflator production facility.

Recall component difference to non-recall component: The recall component contains a single-stage Non-Azide Driver Inflator (NADI).

Production Dates : JUL 02, 1998 - JAN 05, 1999

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The driver front air bag module is equipped with a TAKATA single-stage Non Azide Driver Inflator (NADI). Analyses by Joyson Safety Systems (JSS) suggest that a population of NADI inflators manufactured prior to March 15, 1999 may potentially contain suspect sealing conditions related to the foil seal tape which could affect deployment. Please refer to TK Global's Defect Information Report which was filed on November 26, 2019 for more details.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Propellant with high moisture content may result in an air bag with reduced restraint. Moist propellant subsequently dried (and potentially influenced by other factors) could burn aggressively, increasing internal pressure and, in a worst case, causing inflator rupture. An inflator rupture may cause metal fragments to pass through the airbag and into the vehicle interior at high speed, which could cause a serious injury or fatality.

Description of the Cause : Based upon the investigation by Joyson Safety Systems (JSS) to date, the potential for such abnormal deployment may require or be exacerbated by other factors, including manufacturing variation, climatic conditions, vibration, specifics of vehicle applications or other variables not fully understood.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : TK Global LLC

Address : 111 Peyer Court
Romeo MICHIGAN 48065

Country : United States

Chronology :

In July 2019, BMW became aware of an incident in Australia involving a 2000 BMW 3 Series (produced in February 2000) in which the driver was injured. Analyses indicated that the driver air bag inflator was not the original part installed during vehicle production, but was taken from a 1998 BMW 3 Series (produced in September 1998) located in a salvage yard.

In September 2019, BMW became aware of an incident in Australia involving a 1998 BMW 3 Series (produced in August 1998) in which the driver was fatally injured.

In October 2019, JSS provided their analysis to BMW which suggested that a population of NADI inflators

manufactured prior to March 15, 1999 may potentially contain suspect sealing conditions related to the foil seal tape which could affect deployment. BMW decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall in Australia (NHTSA Foreign Recall ID 19F-244).

In November 2019, BMW confirmed an air bag rupture in Cyprus involving a 1998 BMW 3 Series (produced in October 1998) in which the driver was injured. The incident occurred in July 2017 but was not reported to BMW at that time.

On November 19, 2019, BMW decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : The driver air bag inflator will be inspected and, if necessary, replaced with a newly designed inflator. It is recommended that owners do not continue to drive their vehicles.

Owners will be notified by First Class mail and instructed to take their vehicle to an authorized BMW center to have the remedy performed for free. Owners who have replaced the driver air bag at their own expense prior to the recall notification may be eligible for reimbursement according to BMW Group's reimbursement plan in accordance with 49 CFR 573.13 and 49 CFR 577.11.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Driver Air Bag – part number 1 095 767, 1 095 763, 6 783 783, 1 095 764, 6 783 784

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers is expected to begin and end on December 2, 2019. Notification to owners is expected to begin and end on December 31, 2019.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : DEC 02, 2019 - DEC 02, 2019

Planned Owner Notification Date : DEC 31, 2019 - DEC 31, 2019

* NR - Not Reported