

## **Subarunet Announcement**

**To: All Subaru Retailers**

**From: Subaru of America, Inc.**

**Date: March 1, 2019**

### **New Subaru Safety Recall: WUE-90 Brake Lamp Switch Replacement**

Subaru of America, Inc. (Subaru) is recalling certain Crosstrek, Forester, Impreza, and WRX vehicles to replace the brake lamp switch. A total of 1,303,530 U.S. vehicles will be affected by this recall.

#### ***Affected Vehicles***

Model Years	Carline	Production Date Range	Vehicle count
2013-2017	Crosstrek	May 17, 2012 – June 13, 2017	363,566
2014-2016	Forester	December 18, 2012 – April 28, 2016	526,941
2008-2016	Impreza 4-door	April 26, 2007 – October 28, 2016	162,744
2012-2016	Impreza 5-door	April 28, 2011 – October 3, 2016	210,553
2008-2014	WRX 4-door	April 26, 2007 – January 15, 2014	39,726

Coverage for all affected vehicles must be confirmed by using the Vehicle Coverage Inquiry function on subarunet.com. This information will be available for all affected VINs on Monday, March 4, 2019.

Subaru is in the process of acquiring the remedy parts and special tools necessary to perform this repair. Please be advised that the status of this recall will display as "Open – Remedy Not Yet Available" until the parts and special tools to perform this repair are available.

#### ***Description of the Defect and Safety Risk***

Silicone gas, potentially introduced to the vehicle through various consumer goods, may seep into the brake lamp switch housing on the affected vehicles. If silicone gas is present in the switch housing during contact closure, silicon dioxide may form a deposit layer on the switch contact terminal. If this layer accumulates, the contact switch may lose conductivity, which may result in a loss of function.

If the brake lamps do not illuminate properly, a trailing vehicle may be unable to recognize the braking operation, which may increase the risk of a rear-end collision.

#### ***Description of the Remedy***

Subaru retailers will replace the brake lamp switch on all affected vehicles, with a remedied one.

The parts and special tools needed to perform this repair are not yet available. Subaru is in the process of acquiring the parts and special tools and will advise retailers when they are available.

### ***Retailer Responsibility***

Once the parts and special tools are available to perform this repair, retailers are to promptly perform the applicable service procedures to correct all affected vehicles in their inventory.

Any vehicles listed in a recall/campaign that are in the retailer's stock must be:

- Immediately identified.
- Tagged or otherwise marked to prevent their delivery or use prior to repair.
- Repaired in accordance with the repair procedures outlined in the Product Campaign Bulletin, once the parts and tools are available.

Until the parts and special tools are available, this recall cannot be performed. If an affected vehicle is in for service, please inform the owner that their vehicle is affected by this recall and that remedy parts are not yet available, and that all affected owners will be notified by mail once the repair can be performed.

Depending on the model, the brake lamp switch functions affected may include: brake lamp illumination, transmission interlock (shifting from park), ignition interlock (push-button ignition start), anti-lock brake system (ABS) functionality, vehicle dynamics control (VDC) functionality, and/or Eyesight operation. If the vehicle experiences a loss in function, as described, any of the associated warning light(s) will illuminate.

If it is confirmed that the brake lamp switch is malfunctioning on an affected vehicle prior to remedy parts being available, please order and install the current replacement part applicable to the vehicle, at no charge to the customer. Please ensure that the customer understands that such a replacement would be an interim repair until the modified remedy parts become available.

### ***Owner Notification***

Subaru will notify affected vehicle owners by first class mail within 60 days. Owners with a valid email address on file will also be notified by email. If parts are not available by that time, owners will be notified that parts are not available yet and they will be re-notified once parts are available. Retailers will be advised when the notification is scheduled.

### ***Service, Parts, and Claim Instructions***

Detailed service, parts, and claim information will be forthcoming and will be made available in the WUE-90 Product Campaign Bulletin on STIS.