

## **Subarunet Announcement**

**To: All Subaru Retailers**

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

**Date: November 21, 2019**

**REMINDER: Interim Owner Notification WUM-98 Forester Passenger-side Front Airbag ODS Recall**

### ***Interim Owner Notification***

Subaru will notify all affected vehicle owners by first class mail on December 2<sup>nd</sup> advising them of this recall. We expect parts to be available starting around December 15<sup>th</sup>, and customers will be re-notified regarding parts availability in phases and to schedule an appointment for repair. A copy of the interim owner notification letter is now included in the WUM-98 Product Campaign Bulletin on STIS.

### ***Background***

Subaru of America, Inc. (Subaru) is recalling certain 2015-2018 model year Forester vehicles to replace the passenger-side front airbag Occupant Detection System (ODS) harness. A total of 365,515 U.S. vehicles will be affected by this recall.

### ***Affected Vehicles***

| Model Year | Carline  | Production Date Range              | Vehicle count |
|------------|----------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| 2015-2018  | Forester | January 20, 2015 – August 01, 2017 | 365,515       |

Not all vehicles in the production range listed above are affected by this recall. Coverage must be confirmed by using the Vehicle Coverage Inquiry function on subarunet.com. Once parts start to become available, the status of the recall coverage will be updated to "Open – Limited Parts Available" to allow for claim entry.

### ***Reason for this Recall***

Over time, due to a decrease in contact pressure between terminals in the ODS sensor mat harness, a temporarily unstable electrical connection may be possible. If the connection is temporarily unstable, the ODS may not properly determine the status of the right front seat occupant.

### ***Safety Risk***

If the ODS is unable to correctly determine the status of a front occupant, the airbag warning light may illuminate, and the front passenger airbag may deactivate even though the seat is occupied, increasing the risk of injury to the front passenger in the event of a crash.

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

For all potentially affected vehicles, Subaru retailers will replace the ODS sensor mat harness with a new part at no cost to the customer, once the harnesses are available.

***Retailer Responsibility***

Any vehicles listed in any recall that are in retailer stock must be:

1. Immediately identified.
2. Tagged or otherwise marked to prevent their delivery or use prior to repair.
3. Repaired in accordance with the repair procedures outlined in the Product Campaign Bulletin, once the parts become available.

Until the parts 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 re-notified by mail once the repair can be performed.

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

Remedy parts as stated above, should become available December 15, 2019. Please refer to the WUM-98 Product Campaign Bulletin which is posted on STIS for additional details.