

**ATTENTION:**

- GENERAL MANAGER
- PARTS MANAGER
- CLAIMS PERSONNEL
- SERVICE MANAGER

IMPORTANT - All Service Personnel Should Read and Initial in the boxes provided, right.




QUALITY DRIVEN® SERVICE

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**PRODUCT CAMPAIGN BULLETIN**

<p><b>APPLICABILITY:</b> 2010-2014 MY Legacy          2010-2014 MY Outback          2010-2013 MY Forester          2010-2014 MY Tribeca          2010-2011 MY Impreza          2010-2014 MY WRX and STI</p> <p><b>SUBJECT:</b> Takata Front Passenger Airbag Module / Inflator Replacement (2019 Calendar year expansion)</p>	<p><b>NUMBERS:</b> TKA-19R          TKB-19R          TKC-19R</p> <p><b>DATE:</b> 01/14/19</p> <p><b>REVISED:</b> 12/28/23</p> <p><b>NHTSA ID:</b> 19V-007          19V-008          19V-009</p>
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SUBARU OF AMERICA, INC. has determined that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain Subaru vehicles listed above, equipped with a non-desiccated Takata-sourced passenger side frontal airbag containing the propellant Phase Stabilized Ammonium Nitrate (PSAN).

This phase of the Takata recall expansion includes all remaining vehicles equipped with a non-desiccated Takata-sourced passenger side frontal air bag containing the propellant PSAN.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE SAFETY DEFECT AND SAFETY HAZARD**

The affected vehicles are equipped with a Takata-sourced passenger side frontal airbag that may be susceptible to moisture intrusion. Over time, that could cause the inflator to rupture when the passenger’s frontal airbag deploys in a crash. If the inflator ruptures, metal fragments could strike vehicle occupants, potentially resulting in serious injury or death.

**BACKGROUND**

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is expanding and prioritizing the recalls of all non-desiccated Takata-sourced passenger side Takata airbag inflators based on the risk of injury or death to vehicle occupants.

The combination of time, high temperature fluctuations, and humidity contribute to the degradation of the propellant in the inflators. Therefore, NHTSA is prioritizing the Takata recalls by age and location of the vehicles. To do so, NHTSA has established three geographical Zones – A, B, and C – based on the level of heat and humidity as listed below:

*Continued...*

<p><b>CAUTION: VEHICLE SERVICING PERFORMED BY UNTRAINED PERSONS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY TO THOSE PERSONS OR TO OTHERS.</b></p> <p>Subaru Service Bulletins are intended for use by professional technicians ONLY. They are written to inform those technicians of conditions that may occur in some vehicles, or to provide information that could assist in the proper servicing of the vehicle. Properly trained technicians have the equipment, tools, safety instructions, and know-how to do the job correctly and safely. If a condition is described, DO NOT assume that this Service Bulletin applies to your vehicle, or that your vehicle will have that condition.</p>	<p><b>SUBARU OF AMERICA, INC. IS ISO 14001 COMPLIANT</b></p> <p>ISO 14001 is the international standard for excellence in Environmental Management Systems. Please recycle or dispose of automotive products in a manner that is friendly to our environment and in accordance with all local, state and federal laws and regulations.</p>
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**Zone A: Hot and Humid**

Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan), and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

**Zone B: Less Hot and Humid**

Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

**Zone C: Least Hot and Humid**

Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

This phase of the Takata recall expansion includes all remaining vehicles equipped with a non-desiccated Takata-sourced passenger side frontal air bag containing the propellant PSAN:

- Zone A vehicles – (Recall code TKA-19)
- Zone B vehicles – (Recall code TKB-19)
- Zone C vehicles – (Recall code TKC-19)

Future phases of the Takata recalls will be implemented in the year 2020 to include vehicles previously repaired with non-desiccated PSAN inflators.

**REPAIR**

Subaru will replace either the inflator for the front passenger airbag or the airbag module assembly at no cost to the customer.

**OWNER NOTIFICATION**

Owner notification is expected to begin this month and will be phased throughout the next 60 days. Listed below is the current mailing plan:

- The first release will include all TKA-19 vehicles, and all TKB-19 & TKC-19 Tribeca vehicles. Those vehicles will be identified with an “**Open**” status in the Coverage Inquiry on subarunet.
- Subsequent biweekly releases will include the remaining TKB-19 and TKC-19 vehicles. Those vehicles will be identified with a status of “**Open – Pending Phased Mailing**” until all official owner notification letters have been released.

The “**Open – Pending Phased Mailing**” status is not intended to discourage retailers from scheduling these repairs and will not affect the retailers’ ability to file a claim for repairs performed prior to the official owner notification.

**AFFECTED VEHICLES**

Listed below are the models affected by this phase of the Takata recall expansion. Not all vehicles within these ranges are affected by this phase of the Takata recall, since some of the vehicles within these ranges have already been affected by previous Takata recalls. Therefore, coverage must be confirmed by using the Vehicle Coverage Inquiry function on subarunet.com. Coverage information will be available prior to owner notification.

*Continued...*

**Recall Code TKA-19 (NHTSA ID 19V-007) - Zone A All remaining vehicles:**

- 2010-2014 Legacy & Outback
- 2010-2011 Impreza
- 2010-2014 WRX & STI
- 2010-2013 Forester
- 2010-2014 Tribeca

**Recall Code TKB-19 (NHTSA ID 19V-008) - Zone B All remaining vehicles:**

- 2010-2011 Impreza
- 2010-2014 Tribeca
- 2010-2014 Legacy & Outback
- 2010-2013 Forester
- 2010-2014 WRX & STI

**Recall Code TKC-19 (NHTSA ID 19V-009) - Zone C All remaining vehicles:**

- 2010-2011 Impreza
- 2010-2014 Tribeca
- 2010-2014 Legacy & Outback
- 2010-2014 WRX & STI

**RETAILER AFFECTED VIN LISTS**

Each Subaru retailer will receive an affected VIN list from their Zone office when owner notification begins. Vehicles will be assigned to retailers in the affected VIN list as follows:

- Original vehicle owners are assigned to the original selling retailer when their current address is within a 100-mile radius of that retailer.
- If the original selling retailer is inactive, the VIN has been assigned to the nearest active retailer.
- For any new owners or when original owners live more than 100 miles from the original selling retailer, the VIN has been assigned to the nearest active retailer.

**IMPORTANT: Retailer affected VIN lists include owner name and address information for vehicles affected by this recall. This information will enable retailers to follow-up with owners of potentially affected vehicles. The lists contain owners' names and addresses obtained from State Motor Vehicle Registration Records. The use of such motor vehicle registration data for any other purpose is unlawful. Accordingly, retailers are urged to limit the use of these lists for the purpose of completion of this safety recall.**

**RETAILER PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY**

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

- Immediately identified.
- Tagged or otherwise marked to prevent their delivery or use prior to inspection and/or repair.
- Repaired in accordance with the repair procedures outlined in this Product Campaign Bulletin.

Retailers are to promptly perform the applicable service procedures to correct all affected vehicles in their inventory (used, demo & SSLP) for which parts are available to complete this recall. Additionally, whenever a vehicle subject to this recall is taken into retailer inventory, or in for service, necessary steps should be taken to ensure the recall correction has been made before selling or releasing the vehicle, provided that parts are available to complete this recall.

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## PARTS INFORMATION

The parts required for this recall are the passenger airbag inflator kits or modules listed below.

Until sufficient parts supply is available for Subaru to re-notify owners, recall coverage status for the affected vehicles will show as “Open-Limited Parts Available.” Limited parts supply will become available prior to owner re-notification therefore, this status is not intended to discourage scheduling these repairs and will not affect the retailer’s ability to file a claim for repairs performed prior to owner re-notification.

Airbag Module Part Number	Inflator Kit Part Number	Applicability / Description	Order Quantity
98279SC05B	NO LONGER AVAIL-ABLE	Forester (2010-2013)	1
98279FG07B	NO LONGER AVAIL-ABLE	Impreza (2010-2011) WRX and STI (2010-2014)	1
98279AJ06A	NO LONGER AVAIL-ABLE	Legacy (2010-2014) Outback (2010-2014)	1
N/A	98279XA02A	Tribeca (2009-2014)	1

As a reminder, if a customer requests a loaner car, retailers should make every effort to comply with this request and follow normal warranty procedures to obtain reimbursement for the loaner car. See Section 8.4.7 of the Claims Policies and Procedures Manual on [subarunet.com](http://subarunet.com) for details on rental authorizations.

## PART RETURN PROCEDURES

The part return information is susceptible to change. Always refer to the “Takata Airbag Inflator & Module Returns” information supplied in the link provided in the APPENDIX A section of this document.

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## SOA PART RETURN NOTICE INFORMATION



**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The following information is applicable to SOA and Subaru Distributors Corporation (SDC) retailers **ONLY**. Subaru New England (SNE) retailers will continue to follow the procedures currently in place as supplied below.

All SOA and SDC retailers are required to enter **BOTH** the newly-installed (replacement) and the removed (original) serial numbers for the airbag inflator (or module assembly) into the supplied fields as shown in the screen shot below. Claims will not receive an “Approved” status without the serial number information being entered in the appropriate fields in the Recall Claim Entry system. As a result of adding these new required entry fields, Part Return Notices will no longer be generated.

The image shows a screenshot of the Recall Claim Entry form. The form contains several fields for claim information. The 'Installed Serial#' field contains the value 'XMBLH552899' and the 'Removed Serial#' field contains the value 'XMBLA242204'. Both of these fields are circled in red. Other fields include Claim Type (Recall Campaign), VIN (37308358), RO # (756389), Job (A), Mileage (100,098), Recall Code (TKC16), RO Start Date (11/7/2017), RO Completion Date (11/7/2017), Rental (\$0.00), Towing (\$0.00), Total Amount (\$0.00), Status (Working), and Dealer #.

### The information below is applicable to SNE retailers only:

- Upon claim approval and where applicable, Subaru of America, Inc. will generate a Part Return Notice requesting information only.
- To ensure proper claim credit where applicable, the old and new inflator/module serial numbers must be recorded on the Part Return Notice and sent to SOA Part Collection Center (PCC) as instructed on the return notice.

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- Where applicable, the completed Part Return Notice should then be sent using the YRC web portal and utilizing the “Ship Small Parcel” link which will direct the user to the appropriate UPS web page application to complete the shipment. Please keep the UPS tracking number for your records.
- **DO NOT WAIT FOR TAKATA XPO TO PICK UP THE INFLATOR/MODULE TO SEND THIS INFORMATION TO THE PCC.**

**Under no circumstances should any airbag inflators or modules be sent to Subaru of America, Inc.**

## SERVICE PROCEDURE

This Campaign involves the replacement of the inflator portion of the passenger-side front airbag assembly or the complete module assembly. The subject inflators/modules could have been assembled with improperly manufactured propellant components which may affect how the assembly inflates in the event of a collision resulting in an increased risk of injury to vehicle occupants. This procedure will outline removal of the passenger-side airbag assembly and replacement of either the inflator component and related wiring harness or, the complete module assembly.

**VERY IMPORTANT: Failure to follow these service procedures carefully and correctly may result in an accidental deployment of the inflator and potentially cause serious injury. Please read through and understand these procedures COMPLETELY before beginning repairs. In addition, proper operation of the airbag after reassembly may be compromised if these service procedures are not followed.**

As additional service procedures are developed for the other models affected by the expansion and implementation of this recall campaign, they will be added to this document and also made available on STIS.

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<a href="#">Service Procedure for 2010-2014MY Tribeca Models</a>	<a href="#">13</a>

### Tools Required

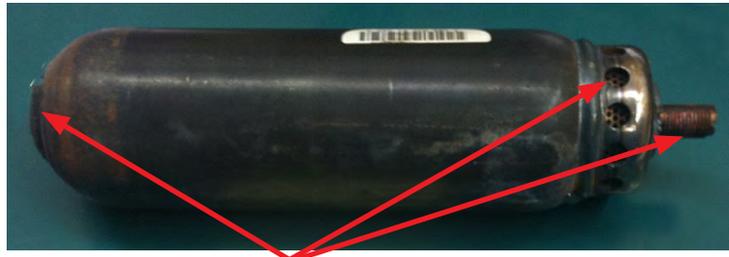
DESCRIPTION	BRAND OR TYPE	QUANTITY
Pliers	-	1
Wire Cutters	-	1
Needle-Nose Pliers	-	1
Torque Wrench	Inch-Pound	1
Safety Goggles	-	1
Flat-Blade Screwdriver	-	1
Scissors	-	1
Ratchet	1/4" Drive	1
8 mm and 10 mm Socket		1 ea.
Airbag Deployment Fixture	J-39401-B	1
Tether Clip Release Tool *See Page 8 for more information	SOA635147	1

**CAUTION:** Before starting this service procedure, perform a visual inspection of both front airbags looking for any damage or abnormality. Next, turn the ignition switch to the “ON” position and confirm the airbag warning lamp illuminates then extinguishes normally. If it does not or if **ANY** concern is noted with the airbag system, **STOP** and report these findings to the customer **BEFORE** proceeding further. Any concerns identified with the airbag system (when no airbag deployment has occurred), are not related to this campaign and must be addressed separately. Even if the system has a concern, this may not preclude completion of this campaign. If you are unsure about proceeding, document and fully diagnose the concern then contact the SOA Technical Helpline to review your findings. It is in the best interest of the retailer to fully document any concerns found during this preliminary inspection and review with the customer **BEFORE** proceeding with the campaign service procedure.

- **Vehicles that do not contain Genuine Subaru airbags are not eligible for this recall repair.** For more information on identifying counterfeit airbags and how to address related customer situations, please refer to STIS for the “Counterfeit Airbag Information” Dealer Advisory Bulletin dated October 25, 2012 by going to [Subarunet>Service>STIS>Online Reference](#) - choose Publication Type: ‘Other/Miscellaneous’ and search keywords: ‘Airbag’).
- **Do not proceed with this repair if your inspection reveals a non-Genuine Subaru airbag module has been installed in the vehicle.** Follow the instructions described in the “Counterfeit Airbag Information” Dealer Advisory Bulletin.
- **IMPORTANT:** Always examine airbag modules closely before and during removal. Confirm they match the photos of the Genuine Subaru airbag components supplied throughout this bulletin **BEFORE** proceeding. The photo below shows an example of an aftermarket or counterfeit airbag inflator. This photo is being provided as an example of what may be a wide variety of non-OEM components.
- If an aftermarket or counterfeit passenger airbag or inflator is identified at any point during the campaign service procedure, **STOP IMMEDIATELY. NEVER attempt to remove or otherwise disable any aftermarket or counterfeit device.**
- Document the presence of the aftermarket or counterfeit device on the repair order and with photos. Report this information immediately on a Quality Monitoring Report (QMR). **IMPORTANT:** When entering a related QMR, use failure code **ULF** and **NOT** the campaign fail code.

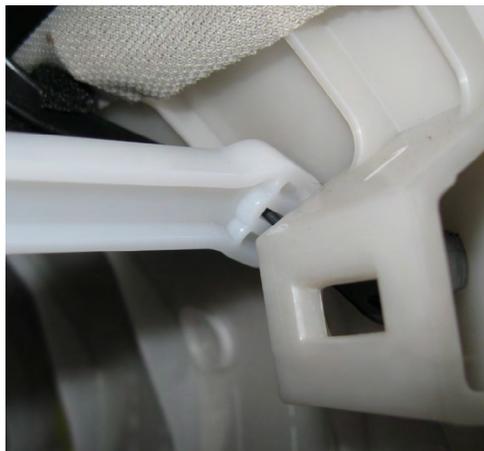
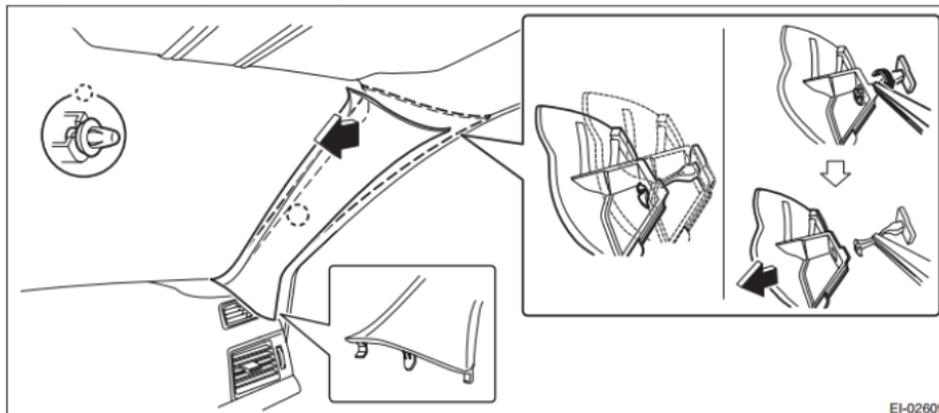
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- Once the QMR has been submitted, contact the Subaru Claims Helpline to discuss the details. They will advise you on how to proceed with treatment of the open campaign.



**The shape, holes, and copper-colored stud indicate this not a Genuine Subaru inflator.**

**NOTE:** Some models utilize a “tether clip” to secure the upper portion of the “A” pillar trim. The tether clip is located just below where the “A” pillar trim meets the head liner. If the tether clip becomes damaged, it **MUST** be replaced. The illustrations and photos below show the location of the tether clip and how to release it. It is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** to use the release tool (p.n. **SOA635147**) specifically designed for tether clip removal. Each Retailer has been supplied with 2 of these tools. If the tool is unavailable, a needle-nosed plier can be used to **CAREFULLY** release the tether clip as shown in the illustration below.



*Continued...*

**\*SERVICE PROCEDURE FOR 2010-14MY LEGACY / OUTBACK MODELS\***  
**Replacement Airbag Module Assembly Part Number: 98279AJ06A**

**CAUTION: Refer to the “CAUTION” section in the General Description portion of Airbag System AB in the Body Section of the Service Manual before handling or servicing any airbag module!**

**STEP 1- PREPARATION:**

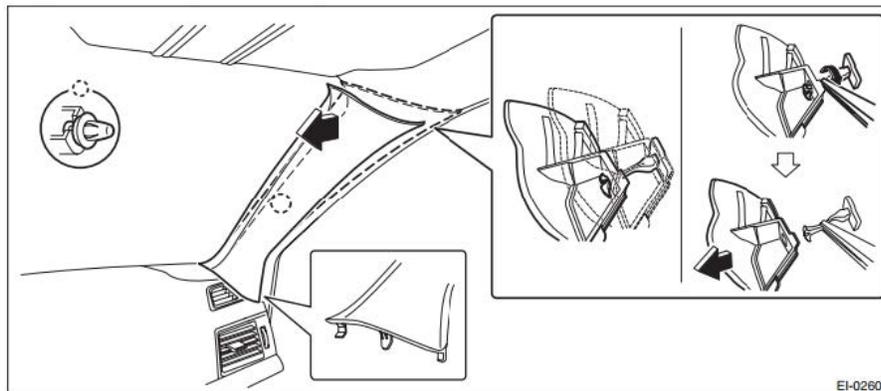
- Record the customer’s radio station presets (and Navigation favorites where applicable).
- Turn the ignition “OFF”.
- Disconnect the Negative (ground) cable from the battery and wait **at least 60 seconds** before proceeding further.
- Follow the procedures in the applicable Service Manual for removing the instrument panel assembly as required to access the passenger side airbag module.
- Disconnect the wiring harness and remove the airbag module.

**IMPORTANT: Whenever beginning to remove (or install) the airbag assembly, and periodically while performing the procedure or after stepping away, remove any possible static charge from your body by momentarily touching a clean, bare metal ground point on the vehicle (e.g. the door striker). Remove from your person all electronic devices including cell phones before proceeding.**

**IMPORTANT: DO NOT destroy or damage the Shipping Box as it MUST be used for the original module’s return shipping.**

**STEP 2-** To access the passenger’s airbag module, the complete instrument panel assembly must be removed. Follow the procedures in the applicable Service Manual for removing the instrument panel assembly in addition to the necessary related interior trim components.

**NOTE:** When removing the “A” pillar trim, be **VERY CAREFUL** not to damage the upper trim retaining (tether) clip. The clip is located just below where the trim panel meets the head liner. If the tether clip becomes damaged, it **MUST** be replaced. The illustrations below show how to release the tether clip and remove the “A” pillar trim. It is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** to use the release tool (p.n. SOA635147) specifically designed for tether clip removal. See pg. 8 of this bulletin for more information.



Once the instrument panel assembly has been removed from the vehicle, **CAREFULLY** release the retaining claws and separate the airbag bag module.

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**STEP 3-** Install the new airbag module to the instrument panel.

**STEP 4-** Reinstall the instrument panel assembly into the vehicle in reverse order of disassembly. Once the negative battery cable has been reconnected, turn the ignition key “ON” and confirm the AIRBAG warning light comes on then cycles off properly. Once proper warning light operation is confirmed, reinstall the remaining components and reset the radio station presets (and Navigation favorites where applicable) to complete the procedure.

**STEP 5-** If not already done, place the removed original air bag module in the Shipping Box, with a completed SOA warranty parts tag (MSA5W1901A) attached to it. The tag must contain the following information: **Claim Number, Repair Date, 17-digit VIN, and vehicle mileage.** Refer to the “PART RETURN PROCEDURES” section of this bulletin for further return shipping instructions and information. **Ensure both the removed and installed module serial numbers have been recorded correctly as previously instructed on the repair order hard copy before returning the removed part to your Parts Department.**

**IMPORTANT: UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ANY AIR BAG INFLATORS OR MODULE ASSEMBLIES BE RETURNED TO SUBARU OF AMERICA, INC.**

**\*SERVICE PROCEDURE FOR 2010-13MY FORESTER and 2010-11MY IMPREZA and 2010-2014 MY WRX and STI MODELS\***

**Replacement Airbag Module Assembly Part Number 98279FG07A (Impreza, WRX and STI) and 98279SC05A (Forester)**

**CAUTION: Refer to the “CAUTION” section in the General Description portion of Airbag System AB in the Body Section of the Service Manual before handling or servicing any airbag module!**

**STEP 1- PREPARATION:**

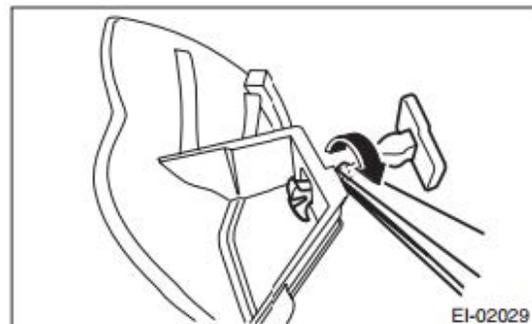
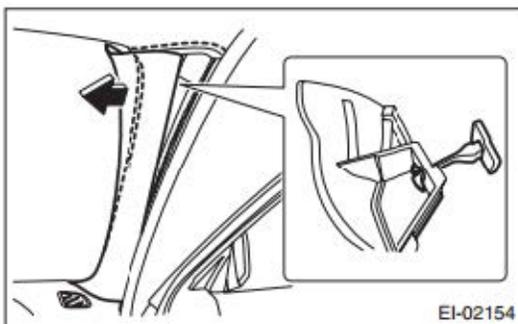
- Record the customer’s radio station presets (and Navigation favorites where applicable).
- Turn the ignition “OFF”.
- Disconnect the Negative (ground) cable from the battery and wait **at least 60 seconds** before proceeding further.
- Follow the procedures in the applicable Service Manual for removing the instrument panel assembly as required to access the passenger side airbag module.
- Disconnect the wiring harness and remove the airbag module.

**IMPORTANT: Whenever beginning to remove (or install) the airbag assembly, and periodically while performing the procedure or after stepping away, remove any possible static charge from your body by momentarily touching a clean, bare metal ground point on the vehicle (e.g. the door striker). Remove from your person all electronic devices including cell phones before proceeding.**

**IMPORTANT: DO NOT destroy or damage the Shipping Box as it MUST be used for the original module’s return shipping.**

**STEP 2-** To access the passenger’s airbag module, the complete instrument panel assembly must be removed. Follow the procedures in the applicable Service Manual for removing the instrument panel assembly in addition to the necessary related interior trim components.

**NOTE:** On **FORESTER** models, when removing the “A” pillar trim, be **VERY CAREFUL** not to damage the upper trim retaining (tether) clip. It is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** to use the release tool (p.n. SOA635147) specifically designed for tether clip removal. See pg. 8 of this bulletin for more information. The clip is located just below where the trim panel meets the head liner. If the tether clip becomes damaged, it **MUST** be replaced. The illustrations below show how to release the tether clip and remove the “A” pillar trim.



On **IMPREZA** models, in place of the tether clip, the trim is secured by a screw accessible by removing the small access cover.

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Once the instrument panel assembly has been removed from the vehicle, **CAREFULLY** release the retaining claws and separate the airbag bag module.

**STEP 3-** Install the new airbag module to the instrument panel.

**STEP 4-** Reinstall the instrument panel assembly into the vehicle in reverse order of disassembly. Once the negative battery cable has been reconnected, turn the ignition key “ON” and confirm the AIRBAG warning light comes on then cycles off properly. Once proper warning light operation is confirmed, reinstall the remaining components and reset the radio station presets (and Navigation favorites where applicable) to complete the procedure.

**STEP 5-** If not already done, place the removed original air bag module assembly in the Shipping Box (or into the returnable shipping box), with a completed SOA warranty parts tag (MSA5W1901A) attached to it. The tag must contain the following information: **Claim Number, Repair Date, 17-digit VIN, and vehicle mileage.** Refer to the “PART RETURN PROCEDURES” and Appendix “A” sections of this bulletin for further return shipping instructions and information. **Ensure both the removed and installed module serial numbers have been recorded correctly as previously instructed on the repair order hard copy before returning the removed part to your Parts Department.**

**IMPORTANT: UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ANY AIR BAG INFLATORS OR MODULE ASSEMBLIES BE RETURNED TO SUBARU OF AMERICA, INC.**

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**\*SERVICE PROCEDURE FOR 2010-14MY Tribeca MODELS\***

**Inflator Kit part number: 98279XA02A**

**CAUTION: Refer to the “CAUTION” section in the General Description portion of Airbag System AB in the Body Section of the Service Manual before handling or servicing any airbag module!**

**STEP 1- PREPARATION:**

- Record the customer’s radio station presets (and Navigation favorites where applicable).
- Turn the ignition “OFF”.
- Disconnect the Negative (ground) cable from the battery and wait **at least 60 seconds** before proceeding further.
- Follow the procedures in the applicable Service Manual for removing the instrument panel (IP) assembly. IP assembly removal is required to access the passenger side airbag module.
- Once the IP is removed, remove the airbag module and secure the it to the Airbag Deployment Fixture (part number J-39401-B).

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The photos available at the time of this procedure’s preparation do not show the removed airbag module assembly as being secured to the J-39401-B Airbag Deployment Fixture during inflator replacement. Subaru of America, Inc. **STRONGLY RECOMMENDS ALWAYS** utilizing a J-39401-B fixture whenever performing **ANY** airbag inflator replacement service procedure.

**IMPORTANT: Whenever beginning to remove (or install) the airbag assembly, and periodically while performing the procedure or after stepping away, remove any possible static charge from your body by momentarily touching a clean, bare metal ground point on the vehicle (e.g. the door striker). Remove from your person all electronic devices including cell phones before proceeding.**

**IMPORTANT: DO NOT destroy or damage the Kit Box as it MUST be used for the original inflator’s return shipping.** Open the Kit Box and confirm all the necessary components are included:

- New Self-Locking nuts (4)
- New Inflator (pink caps on both ends identify it as the replacement part)
- New Inflator Harness
- Electro-Tap (red shorting crimp connector, not shown)
- Black Thermal Insulator
- Stopper Plate
- Protective Sheet
- Anti-Wrinkling Tapes (3)
- Shipping Documentation

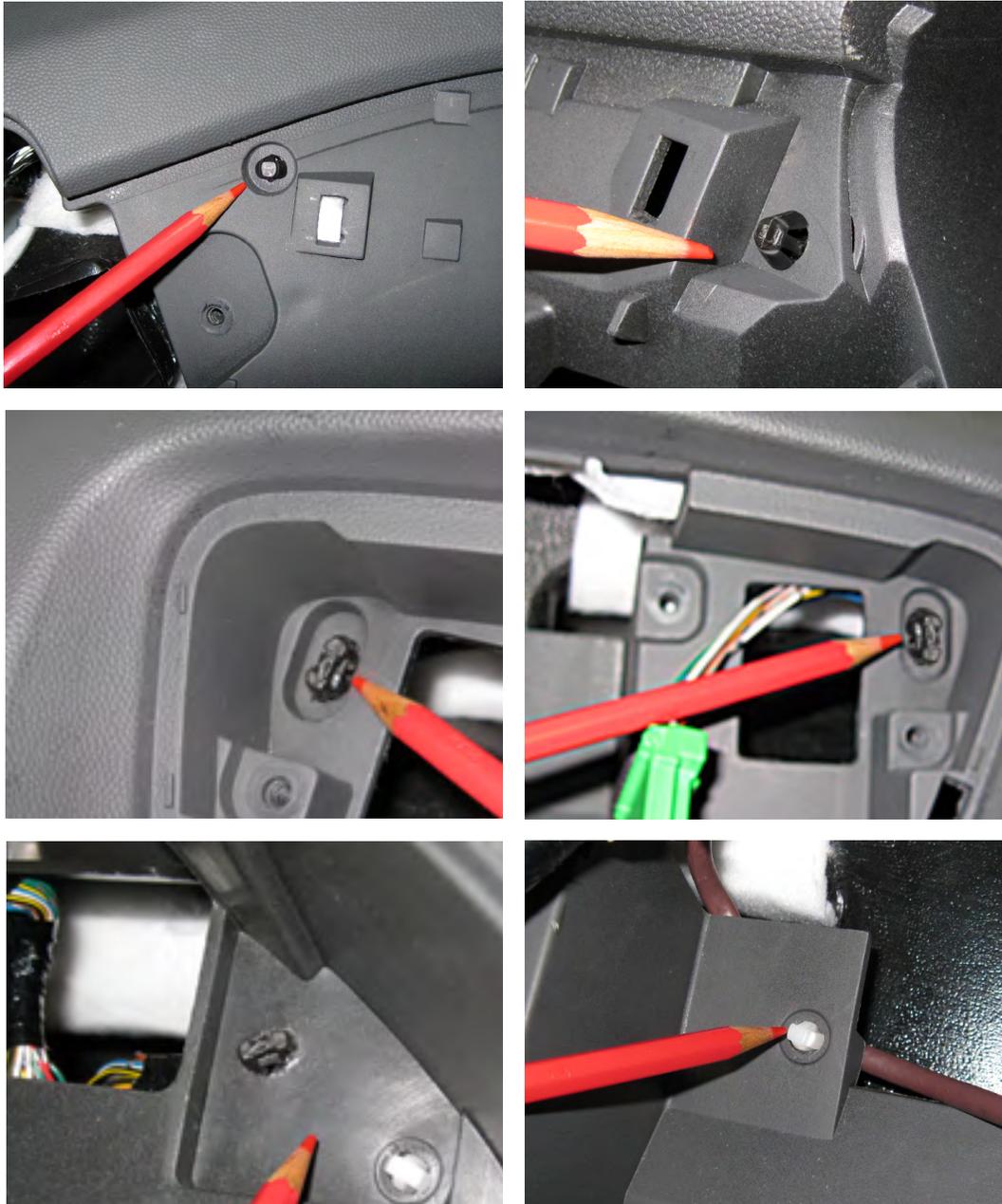


**NOTE: Discard this CE label as it is not applicable to the US market.**

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**STEP 2-** To access the passenger's airbag module, the complete instrument panel assembly must be removed. Follow the procedures in the applicable Service Manual for removing the instrument panel assembly in addition to the necessary related interior trim components. Always take proper precautions to protect trim panel surfaces from damage. Additional tips are provided below to assist with the IP removal.

- Remove the harness connectors from components as needed to access the IP retaining screws as per the Service Manual. Release the harness retaining clips shown below using needle-nosed pliers and push them through to allow additional movement of the IP.



- Release the steering column locking lever, extend the steering column fully and set the column to its lowest position. It is **not necessary** to remove the steering column or the bolts securing it to the support beam in order to remove the IP.

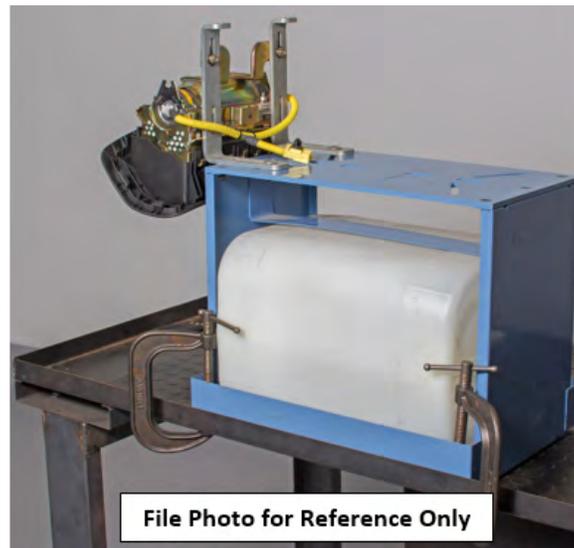
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- **IMPORTANT:** Always cover the steering column cover to protect it along with the top of the HVAC blower case to keep out any removed hardware (e.g. airbag module retaining bolts) with clean shop cloth.

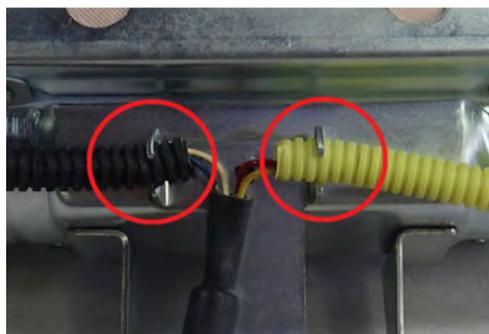


- Once the instrument panel assembly has been removed from the vehicle, remove the 4 retaining nuts and separate the airbag bag module from the IP.

**REMINDER:** It is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** the removed airbag module **ALWAYS** be mounted to the Airbag Deployment Fixture (part number J-39401-B and file photo shown below) to better secure it during the inflator replacement procedure. When mounting the module to the fixture, pay close attention to the harness routing. Always perform this work in an area away from others to reduce chances of inadvertent injury should any deployment occur. Take your surroundings into account to avoid possible hazards should an inadvertent deployment occur or sources of static or other electricity that could potentially induce such a deployment.



**STEP 3-** Remove both harness tubes from the retainer bracket.



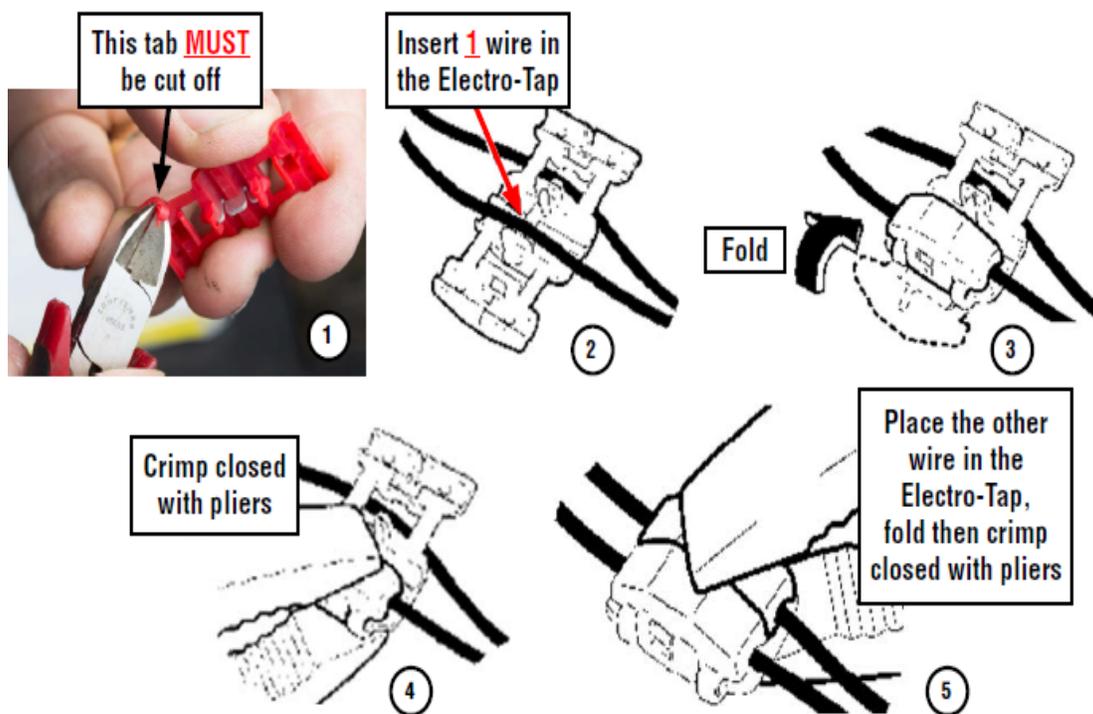
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**STEP 4-** Using a scissor or wire cutter (no knives or razors) **CAREFULLY** cut the black harness cover tube (approximately 1 1/2 inches) enough to expose the blue and white wires inside. Provide enough room to install the Electro-Tap (shorting) connector.

**TAKE YOUR TIME AND BE CAREFUL TO NOT CUT THE 2 WIRES!**

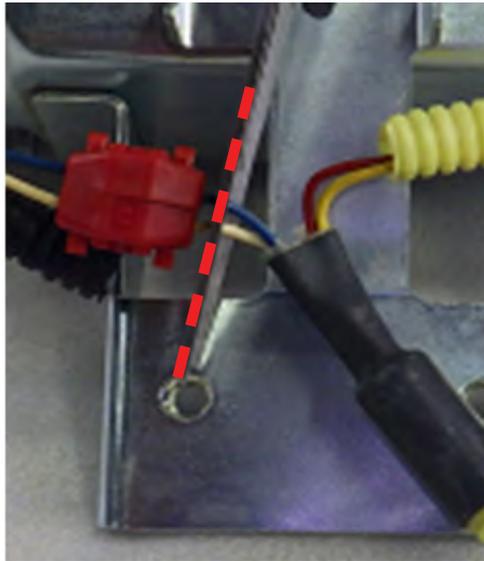


**STEP 5-** Short the blue and white wires together by installing the Electro-Tap connector. The connector creates a short circuit which acts as a safeguard to prevent against static discharge that may deploy the removed inflator. The tab portion of the Electro-Tap connector **MUST** be cut off prior to use to insure a good short-circuit is made as shown in the illustration below. **Follow the sequence below** for installing the Electro-Tap connector. Use pliers to squeeze closed the two sections of the connector together, **one section at a time**.

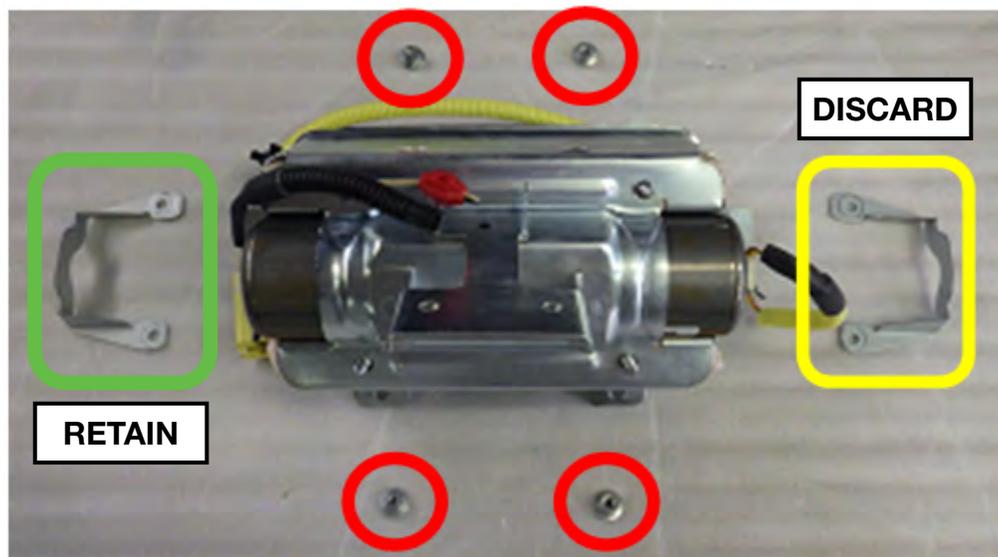


**STEP 6-** Once the Electro-Tap connector is fully crimped in place, cut the blue and white wires **on the body harness connector side** of the Electro-Tap connector. **NEVER ATTEMPT TO REMOVE THE HARNESS CONNECTORS FROM THE INFLATOR!**

*Continued...*



**STEP 7- USING HAND TOOLS ONLY**, loosen and remove the four (4) 10mm self-locking nuts along with both stopper plates. **RETAIN the stopper plate circled in GREEN** (Left-side bracket in image below) as it will be used during reassembly. Discard the removed stopper plate circled in **YELLOW** as it is no longer needed along with the 4 removed 10mm nuts.

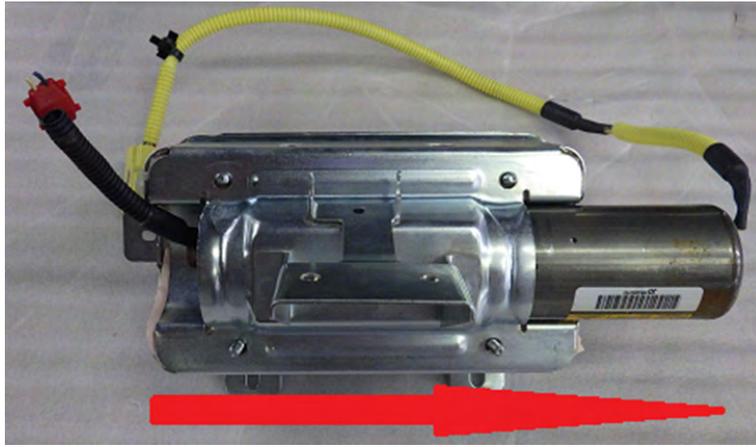


**VERY IMPORTANT REMINDERS:**

- Under no circumstances should any impact or power tools be used when performing these procedures. **HAND TOOLS ONLY!**
- **NEVER ATTEMPT TO REMOVE THE HARNESS CONNECTORS FROM THE INFLATOR!**

**STEP 8-** With the self-locking nuts and stopper plate removed, slide the original inflator out of the mounting bracket. Place the removed original air bag inflator back into the “cradle” of the Kit Box.

*Continued...*

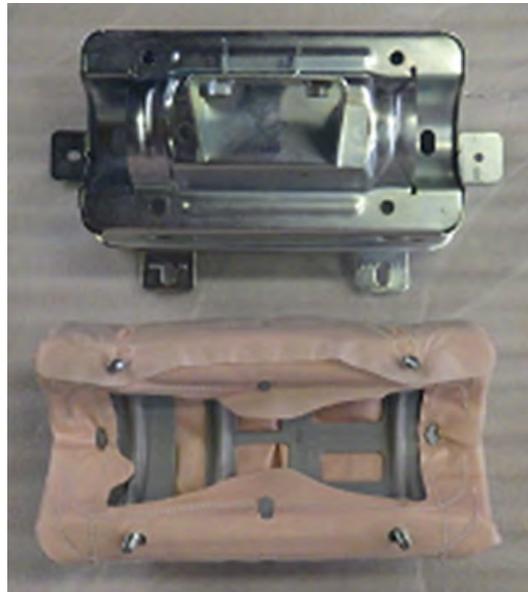


**STEP 9- VERY IMPORTANT:** Record the serial number for **both the new and the removed inflators** on the hard copy of the Repair Order. **For SOA and SDC Retailers ONLY**, this information will be required for claim approval. **For SNE retailers**, this information will be required for completion of the Part Return Notice which will be forwarded by the retailer to the PCC.

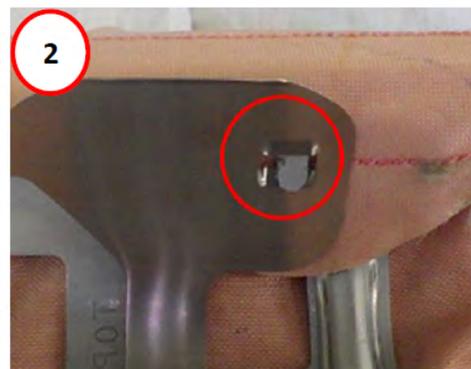
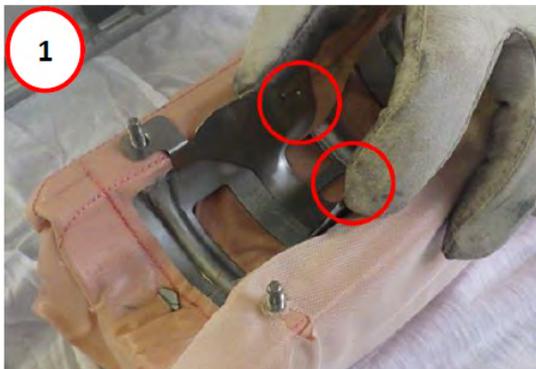


*Continued...*

**STEP 10-** CAREFULLY remove the airbag from the mounting bracket (case).



**STEP 11-** CAREFULLY install the black thermal insulator into the back (inflator) side of the airbag as shown in photo 1 below. **CAUTION:** Gloves are recommended when doing this as edges of the thermal insulator can be very sharp. **TAKE YOUR TIME** and do not bend or twist the insulator any more than necessary to make it fit. The insulator can only be installed in one direction as shown in photo 3 otherwise, the airbag will not fit back into the module frame properly. Confirm both retaining claws come through the corresponding insulator holes like the example shown in photo 2.



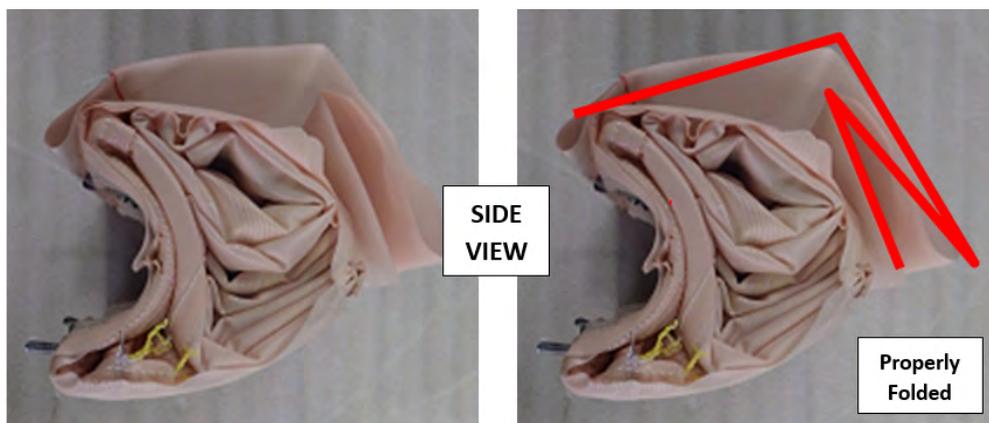
Thermal Insulator Properly Installed

*Continued...*

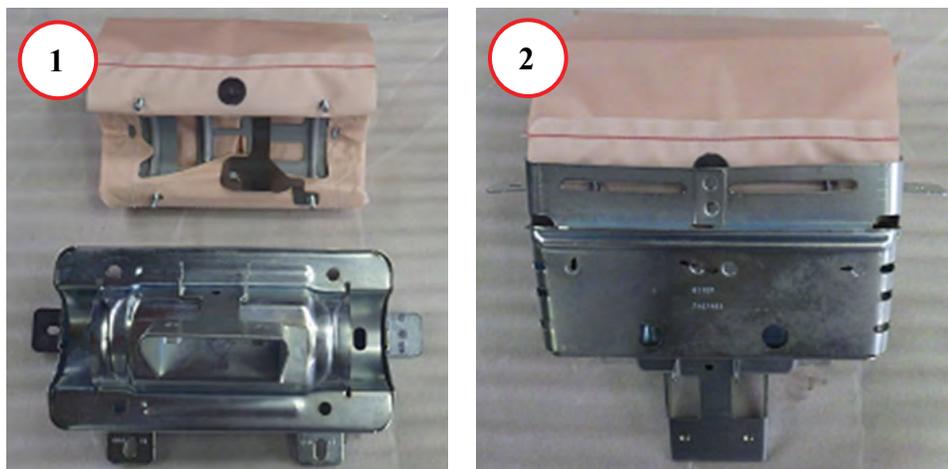
**STEP 12-** Install the protective sheet onto the studs of the airbag with the black mark in the position specified in the photo below. Due to the different spacing of the studs, the protective sheet will only fit properly when installed in this manner.



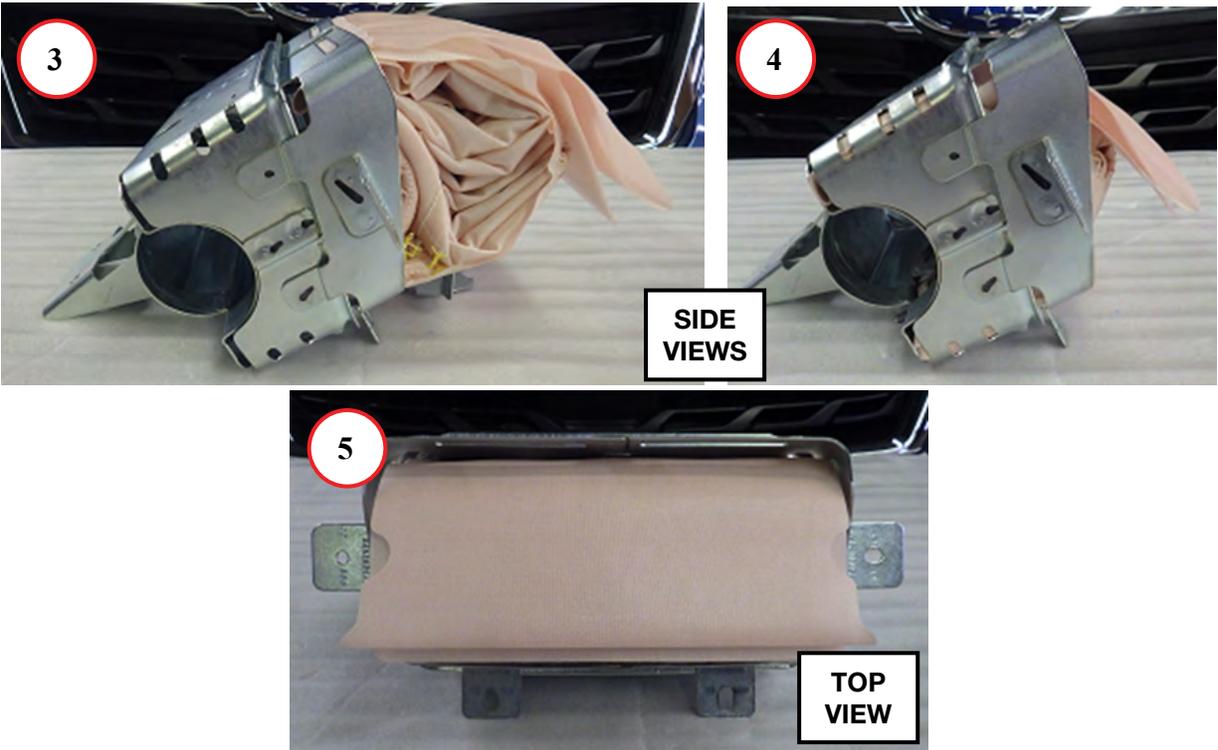
**STEP 13-** The protective sheet is properly installed when: **a)** it fits squarely on the studs, **b)** the black oval-shaped mark is facing up and **c)** the excess is laying over the top of the airbag and folded as shown in the side view photos below.



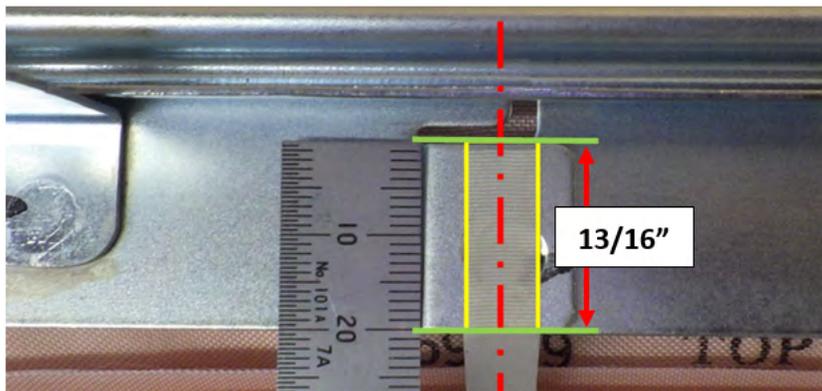
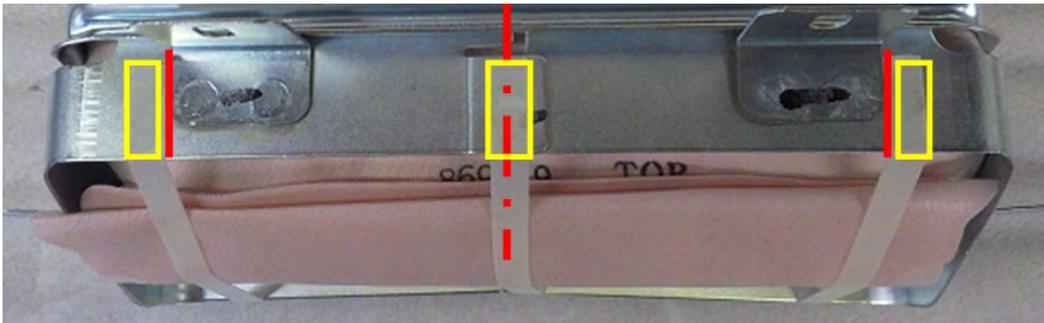
**STEP 14- CAREFULLY** refit the airbag back into the mounting bracket as shown in the sequence below.



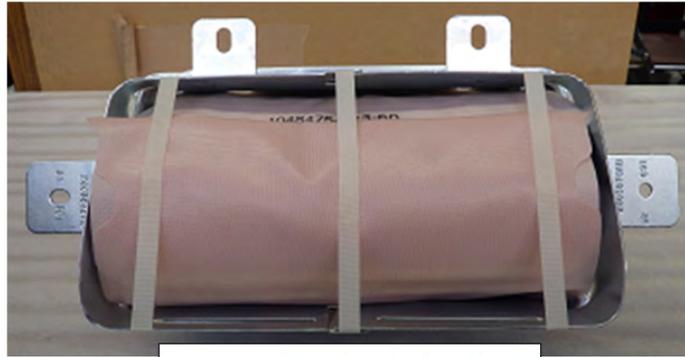
*Continued...*



**STEP 15-** Apply the 3 anti-wrinkling tapes to the module frame as shown below to retain the protective sheet. The yellow rectangles represent the tapes and the red lines indicate where the tapes are to be positioned. Approximately 200mm (13/16") from each end of the 2tape should be applied to the module frame.

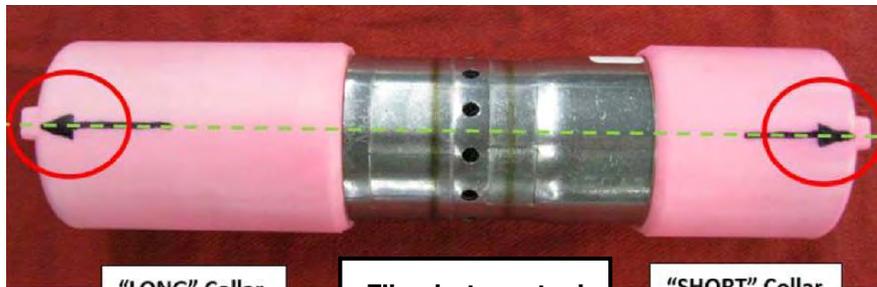


*Continued...*



**Airbag Reinstallation Complete**

**STEP 16-** Inspect the new inflator to confirm the locating protrusions on each of the pink collars are aligned as shown below. The “short” collar can be rotated as needed to align it with the protrusion on the “long” collar if necessary.



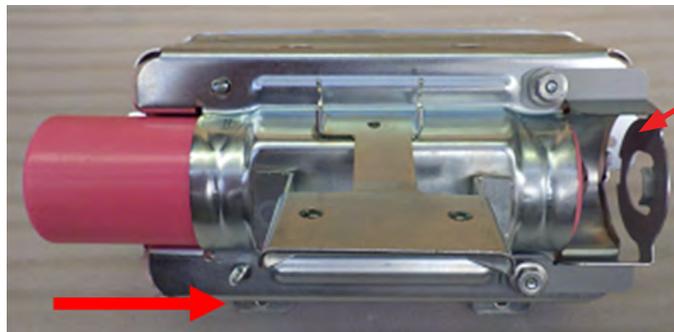
**“LONG” Collar**

**File photo, actual replacement inflator may differ slightly.**

**“SHORT” Collar**

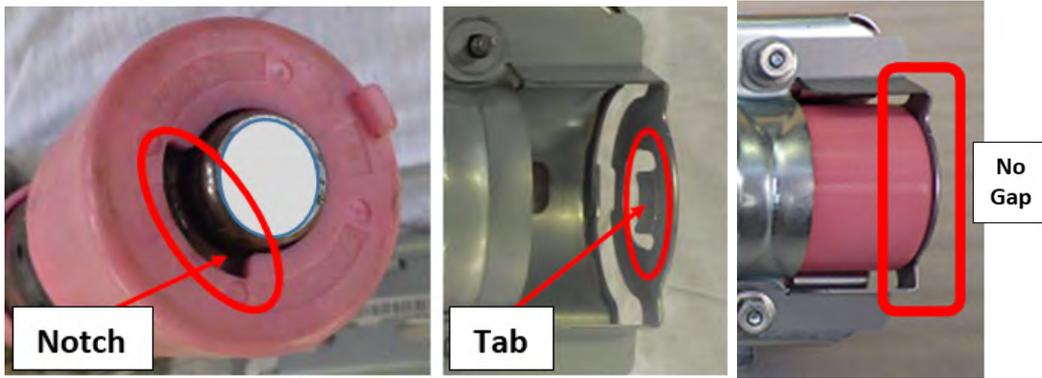
**STEP 17-** Install the new stopper plate supplied with the kit and start 2 of the new nuts onto the studs but do not tighten them.

**STEP 18-** Slide the new inflator back into the mounting bracket, short collar end first. Align the tab on the new stopper plate with the notch on the end of the collar. When properly installed, the inflator will be tight against the stopper plate with no gap.

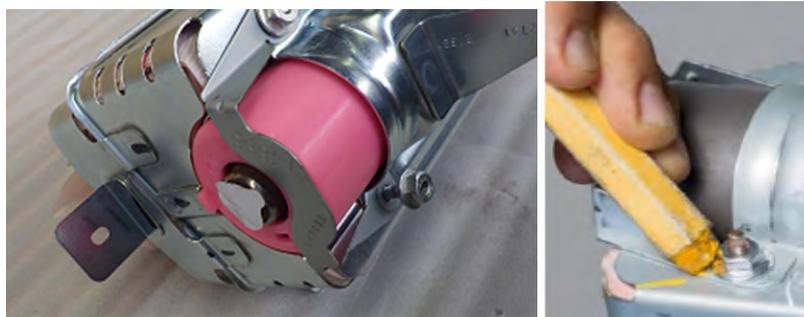


**New Stopper Plate Supplied with Kit.**

*Continued...*



**STEP 19-** Reinstall the original (retained from **STEP 7**) stopper plate and the other 2 **NEW** self-locking nuts. **SLOWLY** tighten (to prevent over-tightening) while making sure both stopper plates stay tight against both ends of the inflator. **HAND TOOLS ONLY!** Torque the nuts to 31-38 inch-pounds. When complete, use a marker to indicate they have been fully tightened.

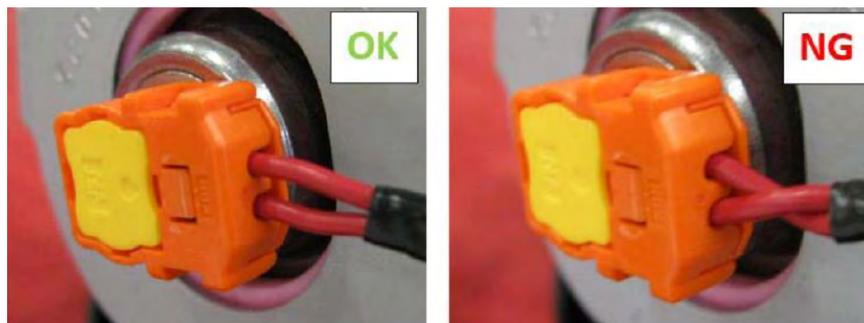


**STEP 20-** Peel the white dust cover from **ONE** end of the new inflator. One end will have a black harness connector while the connector on the opposite end will be orange. The new inflator wiring harness has 2 “sides” with 2-pin connectors on both ends.

- The side with the **black** harness tube and connector goes with the **black** inflator connector.
- The side with the **yellow** harness tube with **orange** connector) will connect to the orange inflator connector.

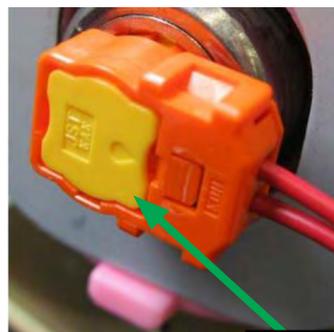
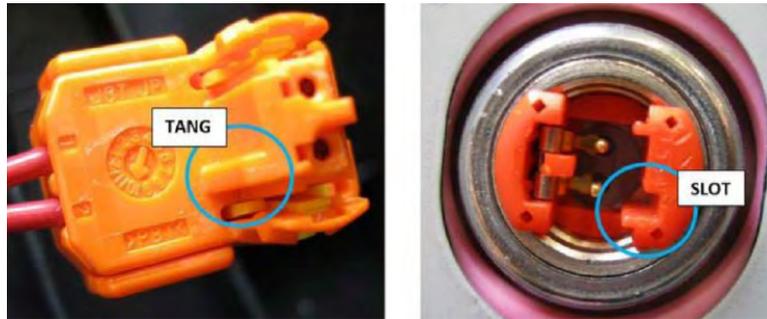
**IMPORTANT: NEVER PEEL BOTH OF THE WHITE DUST COVERS OFF AT THE SAME TIME!**

**BEFORE** connecting the harness to the inflator, make sure the harness is not twisted as shown below.



*Continued...*

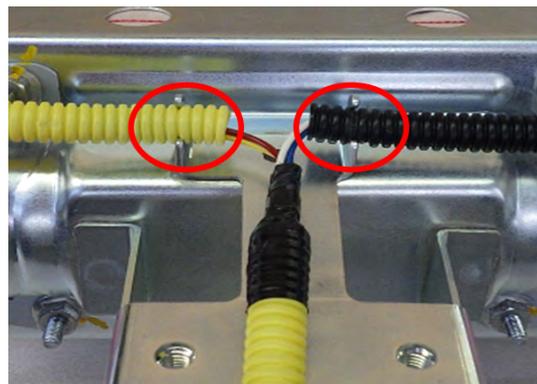
**CAREFULLY** align the tang of the inflator with the slot on the inflator harness connector as shown below. Push down firmly on the yellow lock tab to engage the connector's locking claws into the groove inside the connector boss on the inflator end. Confirm the connector is locked by prying up **LIGHTLY** with a small flat-blade screwdriver. Repeat the procedure on the opposite end.



Once alignment is confirmed, push down firmly to engage the connector. When fully seated, press down on the yellow tab locking the connector to the inflator.

**Lock Tab**

**STEP 21-** After connecting both sides of the harness, refit the harness cover tube back into the retaining bracket.



**STEP 22-** Refit the airbag module to the instrument panel while making sure the anti-wrinkling tapes stay in their proper positions.

**STEP 23-** Reinstall the instrument panel assembly into the vehicle in reverse order of disassembly. Once the negative battery cable has been reconnected, turn the ignition key "ON" and confirm the AIRBAG warning light comes on then cycles off properly. Once proper warning light operation is confirmed, reinstall the remaining components and reset the radio station presets (and Navigation favorites where applicable) to complete the procedure.

*Continued...*

**STEP 24-** If not already done, place the removed original air bag inflator in the “cradle” of the Kit Box insert, with a completed SOA warranty parts tag (MSA5W1901A) attached to it. The tag must contain the following information: **Claim Number, Repair Date, 17-digit VIN, and vehicle mileage.** Refer to the “PART RETURN PROCEDURES” section of this bulletin for further return shipping instructions and information. **Ensure both the removed and the installed inflator serial numbers have been recorded correctly as previously instructed on the repair order hard copy before returning the removed part to your Parts Department.**

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ANY AIR BAG INFLATORS BE RETURNED TO SUBARU OF AMERICA, INC.**

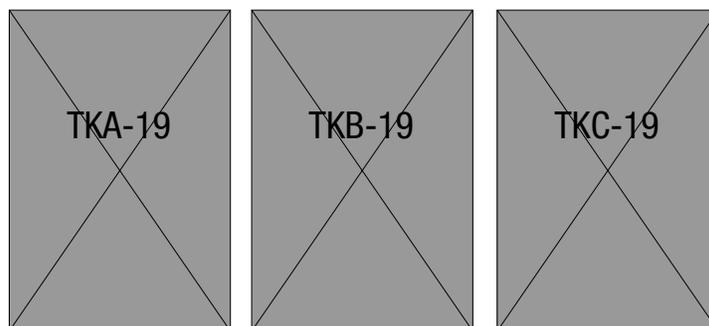
*Continued...*

## RECALL IDENTIFICATION LABEL

Type or print the necessary information on a Recall Identification Label. The completed label should be attached to the vehicle's upper radiator support.

Additional labels are available through normal parts ordering channels. The part number is MSA6P1302, which comes as one sheet of 20 labels.

Part Number	Applicability	Description	Order Quantity
MSA6P1302	All models	Campaign Completion Labels (contains one sheet of 20 labels)	1



## CLAIM REIMBURSEMENT AND ENTRY PROCEDURES

Credit to perform this recall will be based on the submission of properly completed repair order information. Retailers may submit claims through 'Vehicle Claim Entry' on Subarunet.com.

Until sufficient parts supply is available for Subaru to re-notify owners, the status will show as "Open-Limited Parts Available." This coverage status will not affect claim entry.

Listed below is claim entry information:

Claim Type & Campaign Code		Model	Labor Time	Labor Operation # and Description	Labor Time INSPECTION ONLY	Labor Operation # INSPECTION ONLY
RC	TKA-19 TKB-19 TKC-19	Forester (2010-2013)	1.6	A182-031 Front Passenger Air Bag Module Replacement	0.3	A182-038
RC	TKA-19 TKB-19 TKC-19	Impreza (2010-2011) WRX and STI (2010-2014)	1.6	A182-031 Front Passenger Air Bag Module Replacement	0.3	
RC	TKA-19 TKB-19 TKC-19	Legacy (2010-2014) Outback (2010-2014)	3.0	A182-031 Front Passenger Air Bag Module Replacement	0.3	
RC	TKA-19 TKB-19 TKC-19	Tribeca (2010-2014)	1.8	A182-031 Front Passenger Air Bag Inflator Replacement	0.3	

*Continued...*

Airbag Module Part Number	Inflator Kit Part Number	Applicability / Description	Claim Quantity
98279SC05B	NO LONGER AVAILABLE	Forester (2010-2013)	1
98279FG07B	NO LONGER AVAILABLE	Impreza (2010-2011)	1
		WRX and STI (2010-2014)	
98279AJ06A	NO LONGER AVAILABLE	Legacy (2010-2014)	1
		Outback (2010-2014)	
N/A	98279XA02A	Tribeca (2010-2014)	1

<b>For SOA and SDC Retailers: Serial Number Entry</b>	Upon entry of a recall claim, <b>BOTH</b> the newly-installed (replacement) and the removed (original) serial numbers are required to be entered in the appropriate fields in the Recall Claim Entry system. As a result of adding these new required entry fields, Part Return Notices will no longer be generated.
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<b>For SNE Retailers ONLY Miscellaneous Detail Field</b>	The serial number of the NEW air bag inflator or module installed <b>MUST</b> be entered in the "Misc. Detail" field.
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*Continued...*

## OWNER NOTIFICATION LETTER

**URGENT**  
**IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL**  
This notice applies to the VIN below



**Subaru of America, Inc**  
PO Box 9103  
Camden, NJ 08101-9877  
844-373-6614  
www.subaru.com

### **SAFETY RECALL NOTICE**

**This is an important Safety Recall.**  
**The remedy will be performed at no charge to you.**

**Recall: XXX-19 NHTSA ID: 19V-XXX**

**March 2019**

**Dear Subaru Owner:**

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. SUBARU OF AMERICA, INC. has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in 2010-2014 model year Legacy, Outback, Tribeca, and WRX (including STI) vehicles, 2010-2013 model year Forester vehicles, and 2010-2011 model year Impreza vehicles equipped with a non-desiccated Takata-sourced passenger side frontal air bag containing the propellant Phase Stabilized Ammonium Nitrate.

You received this notice because our records indicate that you own one of these vehicles.

### **DESCRIPTION OF THE SAFETY DEFECT AND SAFETY HAZARD**

The affected vehicles are equipped with a Takata-sourced passenger side frontal air bag that may be susceptible to moisture intrusion. Over time, this could cause the inflator within the air bag to explode when the passenger's frontal air bag deploys in a crash. **If the air bag inflator explodes, sharp metal fragments could strike vehicle occupants, potentially resulting in serious injury or death.**

### **WHAT SUBARU WILL DO**

Subaru will replace the front passenger air bag inflator in your vehicle with a new one, at no charge to you.

### **WHAT YOU SHOULD DO**

You should immediately contact any authorized Subaru retailer (dealer) for an appointment to have this repair performed for free. To minimize your inconvenience while the repair is being performed, please ask your retailer for alternative transportation options.

***Until this repair is performed, do not allow passengers to ride in the front passenger seat.***

If you are not the only driver of this vehicle, please advise all other drivers and passengers of this important information.

### **HOW LONG WILL THE AIR BAG INFLATOR REPLACEMENT TAKE?**

The time to replace the front passenger air bag inflator is approximately three hours for Legacy and Outback vehicles, and less than two hours for Impreza, WRX (Including STI), Tribeca, and Forester vehicles. However, your retailer can provide you with a better estimate of the overall time for this service visit, as it may be necessary to make your vehicle available for a longer period of time.

### **OWNER INFORMATION**

Government regulations require that recall notifications be sent to the last known owner of record. That information is based primarily on state registration and title data. If you are a lessor of this vehicle, federal regulations require you to forward this notice to your lessee within ten days.

*Continued...*

If you have moved or sold your vehicle, please complete the enclosed prepaid postcard and mail it to us. Or if you prefer to update this information online, please go to [www.subaru.com](http://www.subaru.com), select 'Customer Support,' then select 'Address Update' or 'Ownership Update' from the drop-down menu.

**IF YOU NEED FURTHER ASSISTANCE:**

To locate the nearest Subaru retailer, you can access our website at [www.subaru.com](http://www.subaru.com) and select 'Find a Retailer.'

For additional information and the most Frequently Asked Questions, please go to:  
<http://www.subaru.com/vehicle-recalls/airbags.html>, or call 1-844-373-6614.

Para información visite nuestro sitio web específico de Takata en español <http://www.subaru.com/es/vehicle-recalls/airbags.html>, o llame al 1-844-373-6614.

If you need additional assistance, please contact us directly:

- By e-mail: Go to [www.subaru.com](http://www.subaru.com) and select "Contact Us"  
By telephone: 1-844-373-6614
- Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. ET
- By U.S. Postal mail: Subaru of America, Inc.  
Attn: Customer-Retailer Services Department  
One Subaru Drive, Camden, NJ 08103

To subscribe to the NHTSA Recall Notification email System, please go to:  
<https://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/subscriptions>.

Please contact us immediately if the Subaru retailer fails or is unable to make the necessary repairs free of charge.

You may also contact the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, West Building, Washington, DC 20590 or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153) or go to <http://www.safercar.gov> if you believe the Subaru retailer has failed or is unable to remedy your vehicle without charge within a reasonable amount of time.

Your continued satisfaction with your Subaru is important to us. Please understand that we have taken this action in the interest of your safety and your vehicle's proper operation. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this matter may cause and urge you to schedule an appointment as soon as possible.

Sincerely,  
Subaru of America, Inc.

***Notice to Lessors:*** Under Federal law the lessor of a vehicle who receives this letter must provide a copy of it to the vehicle lessee(s) within 10 business days from receipt. The lessor must also keep a record of the lessee(s) to whom this letter is sent, the date sent, and the applicable vehicle identification number (VIN). (For the purposes of this section, a lessor means a person or entity that in the last twelve months prior to the date of this notification has been the owner, as referenced on the vehicle's title, of any five or more leased vehicles. A leased vehicle is a vehicle leased to another person for a term of at least four months.)

*A subsidiary of Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd.*

*Continued...*

## SHIPPING DOCUMENTATION AND INSTRUCTIONS (Appendix A)

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** There are 2 different sets of instructions supplied in this section. The first page outlines the procedure for INFLATOR returns while the following page provides instructions for returning a COMPLETE MODULE assembly.

### NOTE

#### INFLATOR RETURNS

#### **These Return Instructions are for the Continental US dealerships (48 States).**

**NOTE: Locations outside of the Continental United States (Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands INCLUDING Mexico and Canada CANNOT follow below shipping instructions.** Instead, dealerships in these locations MUST contact the following Takata/XPO USA representative directly for shipping instructions: Miguel Prigadaa – Tel #: 210-250-5078 or Email: MLGTakataRestrains\_International@menlowworldwide.com

<https://www.subarunet.com/home/content/1505>