

# Service Information Bulletin

Audio, Navigation, Information, Safety Systems

December 20, 2019

B65 23 19

## RECALL 19V-851: DRIVER'S FRONT AIR BAG (NADI) INFLATOR

This Service Information Bulletin (Revision 2) replaces SI B65 23 19 dated December 10, 2019.

### What's New:

- Customers can call 1-800-805-9230 or 1-800-525-7417 to discuss the options available for this recall.

### MODEL

E-Series	Model Description	Production Date
E46	3 Series Sedan	July 2, 1998 – January 5, 1999

### AFFECTED VEHICLES

Vehicles which require this Recall Campaign to be completed will show it as "Open" when checked either in AIR, the "Service Menu" of DCSnet (Dealer Communication System), ISPA Next or Warranty Vehicle Inquiry. All other systems will show the stop sale starting tomorrow.

### SITUATION

BMW of North America, LLC is conducting a Voluntary Safety Recall (effective December 4, 2019) on certain Model Year 1999 BMW 3 Series vehicles that were produced between July 1998 and January 1999. Please see attached Recall Notice for further information.

This recall campaign involves vehicles equipped with the single-stage Takata Non Azide Driver Inflator (NADI) which may have been produced with an insufficient seal that could allow moisture to enter the inflator.

There are three separate recalls involving the NADI units.

Recall ID	SIB No.	Recall Description
19V-851	B65 23 19	Driver's Front Air Bag (NADI) Inflator -STOP DRIVE
19V-852	B65 24 19	Driver's Front Air Bag (NADI) Inflator
19V-853	B65 25 19	Driver's Front Air Bag (NADI) Inflator -Spare Parts

**Customers potentially affected by this recall will be instructed not to drive the vehicle until the repair is completed. The stop drive only pertains to the vehicles identified in this bulletin.**

Please refer to the attached Q&A for further information.

Parts are currently unavailable. A remedy is being developed and will not be available until sometime next year. Please refer to the weekly Parts Matrix for updates.

We will update this bulletin as soon as additional information is available.

## **SAFETY RECALL NOTICE**

To: All Center Operators, Sales Managers, Service Manager, Parts Manager and Warranty Processor

RE: Recall 19V-851: Driver's Front Air Bag (NADI) Inflator – B65 23 19

BMW AG has announced a Voluntary Safety Recall (effective December 4, 2019) on certain Model Year 1999 BMW 3 Series vehicles that were produced between July 1998 and January 1999.

**Customers potentially affected by this recall will be instructed not to drive the vehicle until the repair is completed. The stop drive only pertains to the vehicles identified in bulletin B65 23 19.**

**Please be reminded that it is a violation of federal law (The Safety Act) for you to sell, lease or deliver any new motor vehicle covered by this notification until the recall repair has been performed. This means that centers may not legally deliver new motor vehicles to consumers until they are fixed or use/sell replacement equipment/parts subject to this recall. Note also that substantial civil penalties apply to violations of the Safety Act.**

**Also, you should not sell, lease or deliver any Certified Pre-Owned or used vehicles subject to a safety recall until the repair is completed.**

**Please follow any special instructions that we provide to you for the return or disposition of recall parts.**

We appreciate all your assistance with this Recall.

**Driver's Front Air Bag Inflator (NADI)**  
**Model Year 1999 BMW 3 Series**  
**Safety Recall 19V-851**  
***Date Issued: 12/4/2019***

- Q1. Which models are included in this Safety Recall Campaign?**  
Certain Model Year 1999 BMW 3 Series Sedans (323i, 328i) (E46), produced from July 1998 through January 1999 are potentially affected.
- Q2. Which inflator is affected?**  
This recall campaign involves vehicles equipped with the single-stage Takata Non Azide Driver Inflator (NADI).
- Q3. What is the specific concern?**  
A population of NADI inflators manufactured prior to March 15, 1999 may have been produced with an insufficient seal which could allow moisture to enter the inflator.
- Q4. What can happen as a result of this issue?**  
In a crash where the driver air bag deploys, it may not deploy with sufficient restraint capability which could increase the risk of injury. It is also possible that the air bag housing may explode and could cause metal fragments to pass through the air bag cushion material, which may result in injury or death to the driver and/or other vehicle occupants.
- Q5. Can I continue to drive my vehicle?**  
No. Potentially affected vehicles are not to be driven. If you are not the only driver of this vehicle, please advise all other drivers of this important information.
- Q6. Why are other BMW models not included?**  
Other vehicles have driver front air bags that were produced with different inflators.
- Q7. What is the fix?**  
The remedy is currently being developed. When it is available, the driver air bag inflator will be inspected and, if necessary, replaced with a newly designed inflator.
- Q8. How will I be notified of this recall?**  
Letters will be sent out in December 2019 via First Class mail, advising customers of this recall. To ensure BMW of North America, LLC has your most recent contact and vehicle information, please register your vehicle at <http://www.bmwusa.com/myBMW>. Registration is free, and will give you access to factory initiated campaigns and other information specific to your BMW vehicle.
- Q9. Do I have to wait for my letter in order to have my vehicle repaired?**  
Yes. BMW is in the process of ensuring that the necessary tools, parts, and procedures are available prior to contacting you to schedule an appointment with your authorized BMW center to have this important Safety Recall performed. For the latest updates to this Safety Recall please visit [www.bmwusa.com/recall](http://www.bmwusa.com/recall).
- Q10. Is it possible to find out whether the problem exists in my car?**  
No. There is no way to detect if your BMW might have an air bag inflator potentially at risk of rupturing upon deployment in an accident.
- Q11. How did BMW become aware of this issue?**  
BMW became aware of this issue through its quality control procedures.

**Driver's Front Air Bag Inflator (NADI)  
Model Year 1999 BMW 3 Series  
Safety Recall 19V-851  
Date Issued: 12/4/2019**

**Q12. I did not receive a letter from BMW regarding my vehicle. How can I find out if my BMW is included in this recall?**

You can enter your vehicle identification number (VIN) at [www.bmwusa.com/recall](http://www.bmwusa.com/recall) and download a sample owner notification letter and Q&A if your VIN is affected. Make sure to update your contact information by registering at <http://www.bmwusa.com/myBMW>.

**Q13. What if I am not the current owner of this vehicle?**

You can update your vehicle ownership information by registering at <http://www.bmwusa.com/myBMW>.

**Q14. Am I eligible for reimbursement under the TREAD Act if I previously replaced my driver's front air bag module?**

In this particular recall, reimbursement is likely not applicable, as you would typically have replaced your driver front air bag module as a result of an accident. In that situation, most likely your insurance company paid for the repair. However, in the very unusual (unlikely) scenario that you previously paid to replace the front air bag module "out-of-pocket" upon learning of this possible defect, you may be eligible for reimbursement. Additional information is provided when BMW mails the letter asking you to make an appointment with an authorized BMW center.