

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 20V-243

**Manufacturer Name :** BMW of North America, LLC**Submission Date :** JUN 18, 2020**NHTSA Recall No. :** 20V-243**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 : 33

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2017-2017 BMW 530i, 530i xDrive, 540i, 540i xDrive

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

**Descriptive Information :** Approximately 29 vehicles are equipped with a head air bag on the driver or passenger side in which the level of humidity within the inflator may, at some point, have exceeded specifications.

**Basis for recall population determination:** Vehicle assembly and supplier production records were reviewed to determine two specific production dates of suspect parts (May 16, 2016 and May 30, 2016) and, via parts traceability, the specific production dates of potentially affected vehicles.

**Recall component difference to non-recall component:** The head air bag may contain moisture in the propellant which exceeds specifications.

Production Dates : OCT 14, 2016 - FEB 01, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2017-2018 BMW 530e xDrive

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

**Descriptive Information :** Approximately 4 vehicles are equipped with a head air bag on the driver or passenger side in which the level of humidity within the inflator may, at some point, have exceeded specifications.

**Basis for recall population determination:** Vehicle assembly and supplier production records were reviewed to determine two specific production dates of suspect parts (May 16, 2016 and May 30 2016) and, via parts traceability, the specific production dates of potentially affected vehicles.

**Recall component difference to non-recall component:** The head air bag may contain moisture in the propellant which exceeds specifications.

**Production Dates :** AUG 31, 2016 - SEP 22, 2017

**VIN Range 1 : Begin :**

NR

**End :** NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** This safety recall involves the driver and passenger head air bags in which the level of humidity within the inflator may, at some point, have exceeded specifications. Excessive humidity within the inflator could have an effect upon the propellant. As a result, during deployment of the head air bag, the pressure inside the inflator could be larger than intended.

**FMVSS 1 :** NR

**FMVSS 2 :** NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** In a crash of sufficient severity, deployment of the affected head air bag may be impaired, and/or the igniter could separate from the inflator, either of which could increase the risk of injury.

**Description of the Cause :** NR

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** NR

## Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Head Air Bag - Left Side

Component Description : Head Air Bag - Left Side

Component Part Number : 7 372 519

Component Name 2 : Head Air Bag - Right Side

Component Description : Head Air Bag - Right Side

Component Part Number : 7 372 520

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : Joyson Safety Systems

Address : Bahnweg 1

Aschaffenburg FOREIGN STATES 63743

Country : Germany

## Chronology :

On September 16, 2019, BMW became aware of an unusual deployment of a head air bag during recycling ignition of the air bag as part of the disposal process of an internal test vehicle. It was reported that the igniter separated from its attachment to the inflator. A review of supplier quality records indicated that the suspect inflator was produced on May 30, 2016.

A review was conducted to identify if additional test vehicles contained inflators that may have been produced from the production lot of the suspect inflator or other production lots with similarly designed inflators.

Between December 2019 and February 2020, additional inflators from test vehicles were able to be obtained, analyzed and then tested. Inflator interior humidity levels were able to be measured for 3 inflators, and indicated that the levels exceeded specifications. Inflators from 7 other test vehicles had already been through the disposal process, and there were no reported anomalies during recycling.

In March 2020, further reviews of supplier quality records showed that during inflator production, humidity levels and ballistic testing results were within specifications for all inflators subject to lot acceptance testing. Although the analysis is ongoing, at the present time, a root cause, which may have allowed the humidity level to exceed specifications, has not yet been identified.

Additional reviews were conducted to determine the number and production dates of potentially affected vehicles.

On April 22, 2020, in an abundance of caution, BMW decided to conduct a voluntary recall for potentially affected vehicles.

BMW has not received any reports, nor is BMW otherwise aware, of any accidents or injuries related to this issue.

### Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : The left or right head air bag will be replaced.

Owners who have had this remedy performed 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 : Recalled Component: head air bag module; p/n (7 372 519 - left-side), (7 372 520 - right-side).

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

### Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers is planned to begin and end on April 29, 2020. Notification to owners is planned to begin and end on June 22, 2020.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : APR 29, 2020 - APR 29, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : JUN 22, 2020 - JUN 22, 2020

\* NR - Not Reported