



Safety Recall

Code: 69AL

Subject	Airbag Crash Sensors				
Release Date	February 14, 2020				
Affected Vehicles	Country	Beginning Model Year	Ending Model Year	Vehicle	Vehicle Count
	USA	2018	2018	ATLAS	7
	<p>Check Campaigns/Actions screen in Elsa on the day of repair to verify that a VIN qualifies for repair under this action. Elsa is the <u>only</u> valid campaign inquiry & verification source.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Campaign status must show "open." ✓ If Elsa shows other open action(s), inform your customer so that the work can also be completed at the same time the vehicle is in the workshop for this campaign. 				
Problem Description	In a crash, it is possible that frontal airbag deployment may be delayed (or the frontal airbags may not deploy at all) due to potentially mis-built airbag crash sensors. This can increase the risk of injury to vehicle occupants in a crash.				
Corrective Action	Replace the airbag crash sensors.				
Precautions	The airbag warning light will come on if an airbag crash sensor failure is detected. Customers are advised: Do not ignore an illuminated airbag warning light. Contact an authorized Volkswagen dealer without delay and arrange to have the vehicle inspected/serviced.				
Code Visibility	On February 03, 2020, the campaign code was applied to affected vehicles.				
Owner Notification	Owner notification will take place in March 2020. An owner letter example is included in this bulletin for your reference.				
Additional Information	<p>Please alert everyone in your dealership about this action, including Sales, Service, Parts and Accounting personnel. Contact Warranty if you have any questions.</p> <p>IMPORTANT REMINDER ON VEHICLES AFFECTED BY SAFETY & COMPLIANCE RECALLS</p> <p><u>New Vehicles in Dealer Inventory:</u> It is a violation of federal law for a dealer to deliver a new motor vehicle or any new or used item of motor vehicle equipment (including a tire) covered by this notification under a sale or lease until the defect or noncompliance is remedied. By law, dealers must correct, prior to delivery for sale or lease, any vehicle that fails to comply with an applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard or that contains a defect relating to motor vehicle safety.</p> <p><u>Pre-Owned Vehicles in Dealer Inventory:</u> Dealers should not deliver any pre-owned vehicles in their inventory which are involved in a safety or compliance recall until the defect has been remedied.</p> <p>Dealers must ensure that every affected inventory vehicle has this campaign completed <u>before delivery to consumers</u>.</p> <p>Fill out and affix Campaign Completion Label (CAMP 010 000) after work is complete. <i>Labels can be ordered at no cost via the Compliance Label Ordering portal at www.vwvhub.com.</i></p>				

The repair information in this document is intended for use only by skilled technicians who have the proper tools, equipment and training to correctly and safely maintain your vehicle. These procedures are not intended to be attempted by "do-it-yourselfers," and you should not assume this document applies to your vehicle, or that your vehicle has the condition described. To determine whether this information applies, contact an authorized Volkswagen dealer. ©2020 Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Parts Information

Parts Control Type:
Free Order Parts will be managed by Free Order

Initial Allocation:
NO Due to the small number of affected vehicles, there will be no parts allocation. Please reference the Repair Projection Tool (below) to view your potential VIN population.

Repair Projection Tool:
(right click to open) 

Criteria	Quantity	Part Number	P.O.C. Part Description	Ordering Method
01	2	3Q0-959-651-A	Sensor	Free Order

NOTE

The specified part numbers reflect the status at the start of this recall. Interim updates made in ETKA can cause a listed part number to become unavailable. In this case, the new part number specified in ETKA should be used.

Claim Entry Instructions

After campaign has been completed, enter claim as soon as possible to help prevent work from being duplicated elsewhere. Attach the Elsa screen print showing action open on the day of repair to the repair order.

If customer refused campaign work:

- ✓ U.S. dealers: Submit request via WISE under the *Campaigns/Update/Recall Closure* option.

Service Number	69AL		
Damage Code	0099		
Parts Vendor Code	WWO		
Claim Type	Sold vehicle: 7 10 Unsold vehicle: 7 90		
Causal Indicator	Mark Sensor as causal part*		
Vehicle Wash/Loaner	Do not claim wash/loaner under this action U.S.A.: Loaner/rental coverage cannot be claimed under this action. However, loaner/rental may be covered under the mobility program. Please refer to the Volkswagen Warranty Policy and Procedures Manual for loaner claims information and reimbursement details.		
Criteria I.D.	01		
	LABOR		
	Labor Op	Time Units	Description
	6951 55 99	50	Replace driver front and passenger front airbag crash sensors and clear repair-related faults.
	PARTS		
	Quantity	Part Number	Description
	2.00	3Q0959651A	Sensor*

Customer Letter Examples (USA)

<MONTH YEAR>

<CUSTOMER NAME>

<CUSTOMER ADDRESS>

<CUSTOMER CITY STATE ZIPCODE>

This notice applies to your vehicle: <MODEL YEAR> <BRAND> <CARLINE>, <VIN>

NHTSA: 20V057

Subject: Safety Recall 69AL - Airbag Crash Sensors

Dear Volkswagen Owner,

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Volkswagen has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2018 model year Volkswagen Atlas vehicles. Our records show that you are the owner of a vehicle affected by this action.

What is the issue? In a crash, it is possible that frontal airbag deployment may be delayed (or the frontal airbags may not deploy at all) due to potentially mis-built airbag crash sensors. This can increase the risk of injury to vehicle occupants in a crash.

What will we do? To correct this defect, your authorized Volkswagen dealer will replace the airbag crash sensors. This work will take about an hour to complete and will be performed for you free of charge. Please keep in mind that your dealer may need additional time for the preparation of the repair, as well as to accommodate their daily workshop schedule.

What should you do? Please contact your authorized Volkswagen dealer without delay to schedule this recall repair. To set up an appointment online, please visit www.vw.com/find-a-dealer.

Precautions you should take The airbag warning light will come on if an airbag crash sensor failure is detected. Do not ignore an illuminated airbag warning light. Contact an authorized Volkswagen dealer without delay and arrange to have the vehicle inspected/serviced.

Lease vehicles and address changes If you are the lessor and registered owner of the vehicle identified in this action, the law requires you to forward this letter immediately via first-class mail to the lessee within ten (10) days of receipt. If you have changed your address or sold the vehicle, please fill out the enclosed prepaid Owner Reply card and mail it to us so we can update our records.

Can we assist you further? If your authorized Volkswagen dealer fails or is unable to complete this work free of charge within a reasonable time, or if you should have any questions about this communication, please reach out to us using your preferred method of communication at www.vw.com/contact or by calling us at 800-893-5298.

Checking your vehicle for open Recalls and Service Campaigns To check your vehicle's eligibility for repair under this or any other recall/service campaign, please visit www.vw.com/owners/recalls and enter your Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) into the Recall/Service Campaign Lookup tool.

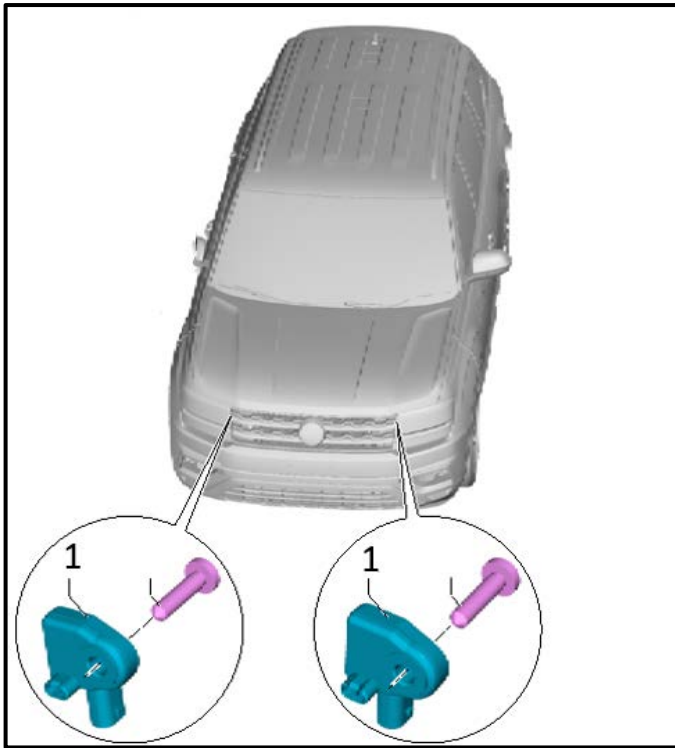
If you still cannot obtain satisfaction, you may file a complaint with: The Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We apologize for any inconvenience this matter may cause; however we are taking this action to help ensure your safety and continued satisfaction with your vehicle.

Sincerely,

Volkswagen Customer Protection

Repair Overview



- Replace driver front and passenger front airbag crash sensors <1>.

NOTE

- These repair instructions may differ from the labor operations and labor times listed in ELSA.
- Damages resulting from improper repair or failure to follow these work instructions are the dealer's responsibility and are not eligible for reimbursement under this action.
- This procedure must be read in its entirety prior to performing the repair.
- Due to variations in vehicle equipment and options, the steps/illustrations in this work procedure may not identically match all affected vehicles.
- Diagnosis and repair of pre-existing conditions in the vehicle are not covered under this action.
- When working during extreme temperatures, it is recommended that the vehicle be allowed to acclimate inside the shop to avoid temperature-related component damage/breakage.

Repair Instruction

Section A - Check for Previous Repair

TIP

If Campaign Completion label is present, no further work is required.

Applicable criteria ID(s)	Campaign/Action Status
01 ← 2	Open ← 1

EXAMPLE

- Enter the VIN in Elsa and proceed to the “Campaign/Action” screen.

TIP

On the date of repair, print this screen and keep a copy with the repair order.

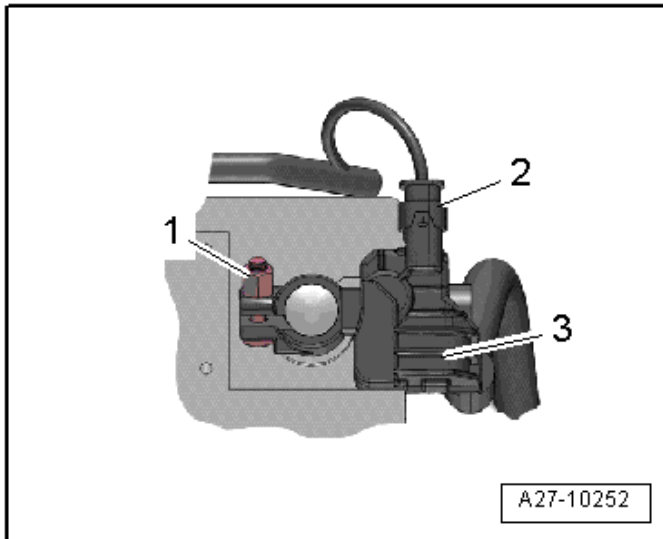
- Confirm the Campaign/Action is open <arrow 1>. If the status is closed, no further work is required.
- Note the Applicable Criteria ID <arrow 2> for use in determining the correct work to be done and corresponding parts associated.

Proceed to Section B

Section B – Replacing Driver Front and Passenger Front Airbag Crash Sensors

⚠ WARNING

Risk of injury. Refer to “Warning and Safety Precautions”, found in **Appendix A** at the end of this document.



Disconnect the battery with the ignition switched ON:

⚠ WARNING

Accident risk. When working on pyrotechnic components (such as airbags and belt tensioners), the battery must be disconnected with the ignition switched **ON**.

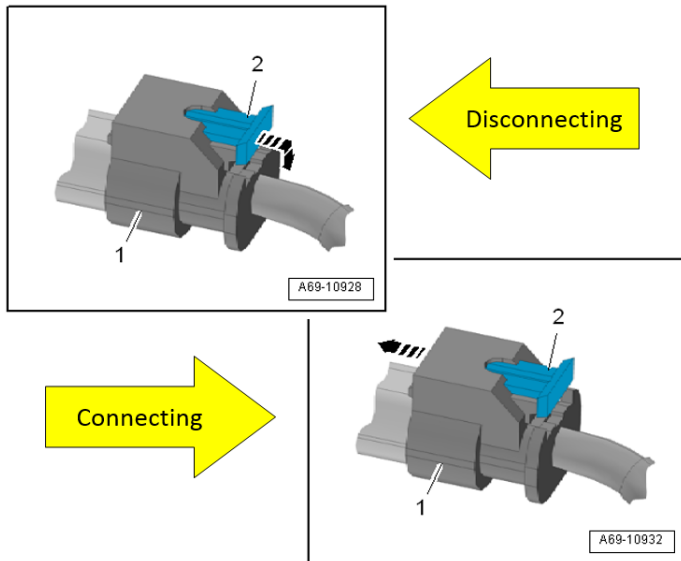
- Turn **ON** the ignition.
- Move the driver seat to the most rearward position.
- Fully recline driver seat.

⚠ CAUTION

Reclining the driver seat before disconnecting the battery allows for additional safety in the event Terminal 15 power is not restored when reconnecting the battery at the end of the repair.

- Access the battery
- Remove and isolate the battery ground cable from the battery terminal.

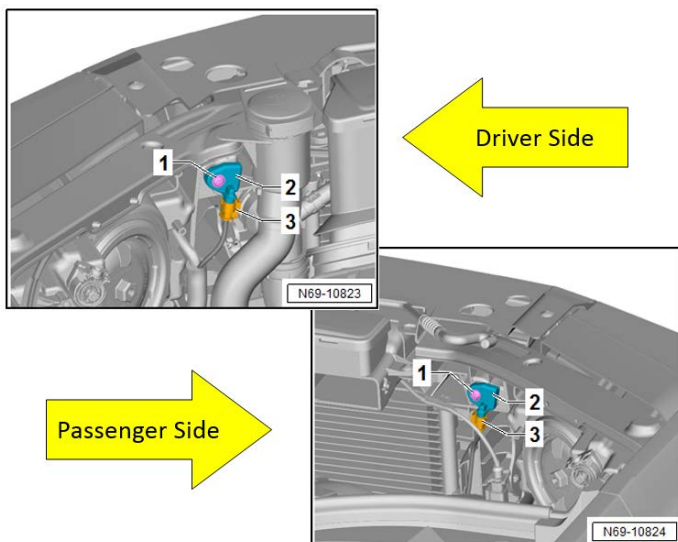
Disconnecting and connecting crash sensor connectors:



⚠ WARNING

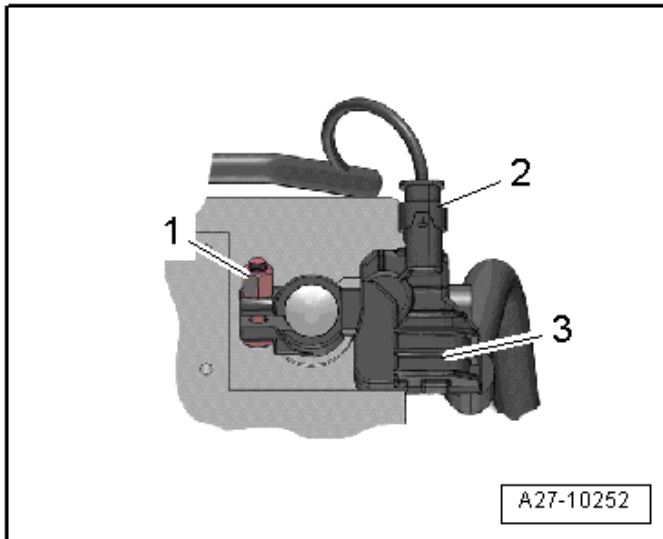
- The battery must be disconnected before installing the crash sensors back into the vehicle.
- Before handling pyrotechnic components (for example, disconnecting the connector), the person handling it must “discharge static electricity”. This can be done by touching the door striker, for example.

- Disconnecting:
 - Pull out the connector lock <2>, push down in direction of <arrow>, and disconnect the connector <1> on the crash sensor.
- Connecting:
 - Attach the connector <1> to the crash sensor until it clicks into place in direction of <arrow>.
 - Push in the connector lock <2> in direction of <arrow> to secure the connector.



Replacing crash sensors:

- Remove bolt <1> for the driver front and passenger front airbag crash sensors <2>.
- Disconnect connector <3>.
- Install new crash sensors in the reverse order of removal.
- Connect and lock the electrical connectors <3>.
- Torque bolts <1> for the crash sensors to 9 Nm.



Connect battery:

⚠ WARNING

- Ignition must be **ON** when connecting battery. If pyrotechnic components (e.g. airbag, belt tensioner) are not repaired correctly, they may deploy unintentionally after connecting battery. There must not be anyone inside the vehicle when connecting the battery.
- If the ignition is not switched on after the battery is reconnected - "indicator lamps in the instrument cluster do not light up" - the ignition (key/button) may only be switched on when the driver seat is positioned all the way back.

- Disconnect the connector <2> from the Battery Monitoring Control Module -J367- <3>.
- Attach the battery ground cable clamp by hand to the battery negative terminal and torque the nut <1> to 6 Nm.
- Reconnect the connector to the Battery Monitoring Control Module -J367-.
- Cycle the ignition off and back on.
- Bring driver seat to an upright position.
- Set clock to local time.
- Activate the convenience open/close functions.
- Check the DTC memories of all the control units and erase under-voltage faults if necessary.

! NOTE

- After connecting the battery and switching on the ignition, the ASR/ESP Control Lamp -K155- and Electromechanical Power Steering Indicator Lamp light up continuously. The indicator lamps switch off automatically after driving a short distance (less than 100 meters). This activates Steering Angle Sensor -G85-.
- Once -G85- is activated and the ignition is cycled, the Start/Stop function will also start working again and any faults related to the battery being disconnected should be able to be cleared.

Proceed to Section C.

Section C – Campaign Completion Label

Install Campaign Completion Label

- Fill out and affix Campaign Completion Label, part number CAMP 010 000, next to the vehicle emission control information label.

 **TIP**

Ensure Campaign Completion Label does not cover any existing label(s).

Proceed to Section D.

Section D - Parts Return/Disposal

Properly store (retain), destroy or dispose of removed parts in accordance with all state/province and local requirements, unless otherwise indicated and/or requested through the Warranty Parts Portal (WPP) for U.S. and the Part Destruction and Core Disposition Report for Canada.

Appendix A – Warning and Safety Precautions

WARNING

General Safety Precautions when Working with Pyrotechnic Components:

- Pyrotechnic components always contain propellant that generates a gas during combustion. In some components, there is also a supply of pressurized gas to ensure this gas is generated
- This pressurized gas is stored under high pressure in a compressed gas container. Pyrotechnic components are triggered by electrical/mechanical igniters.
- Only trained personnel should perform testing, assembly and servicing work. Airbags do not have a replacement interval.
- Never check with test lamps, voltmeter or ohmmeters.
- Only check pyrotechnic components when they are installed in the vehicle using vehicle diagnosis, testing and information systems approved by the manufacturer.
- When working on pyrotechnic components and the airbag control module, disconnect the battery ground strap while the ignition is switched on. Then cover the negative terminal.
- Wait 10 seconds after disconnecting the battery.
- The ignition must be SWITCHED ON when connecting the battery. There should not be anyone inside the vehicle when doing this.
- Exception: vehicles with batteries in the passenger compartment. In this case, stay outside the range of the airbags and seat belts.
- Wash your hands after touching ignited pyrotechnic components from the restraint system.
- Do not open or repair pyrotechnic components. Use only new components to reduce the risk of injury.
- Do not install pyrotechnic components that have fallen onto a hard surface or show signs of damage.
- Discharge static electricity before handling pyrotechnic components, for example before disconnecting the electrical connector. This can be done by touching grounded metal objects such as the door striker pin.
- Install pyrotechnic components immediately after removing them from their transport packaging. If you must stop working, store the pyrotechnic component in its original transport packaging.
- Do not leave pyrotechnic components lying in the open unattended.
- Do not treat pyrotechnic components with grease, cleaning solutions or similar products.
- Do not expose pyrotechnic components to temperatures above 100 °C, even for brief periods of time.
- People in the immediate vicinity of the workplace must be protected from possible noise and projectiles.
- Pyrotechnic components can trigger unintentionally.
- In the event of unintentional deployment:
 - Single-stage inflators: allow airbag to cool down completely. Wait at least 10 minutes before handling.
 - Two-stage inflators: wait for second airbag ignition. Allow airbag to cool down completely. Wait at least 10 minutes before handling.