

U.S. Department of Transportation

# National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

August 10, 2021

Mr. Stephen Worrall Bentley Motors, Inc. 2200 Ferdinand Porsche Drive Herndon, VA 02116 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

> NEF-107DM 21V-605

Subject: Seat Belt Locking Retractor Malfunction/FMVSS 208

Dear Mr. Worrall:

This letter serves to acknowledge Bentley Motors, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

## Makes/Models/Model Years:

BENTLEY/BENTAYGA/2021

Mfr's Report Date: August 4, 2021

NHTSA Campaign Number: 21V-605

**Components:** 

**SEAT BELTS** 

SEAT BELTS:FRONT:RETRACTOR

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 33

## **Problem Description:**

Bentley Motors, Inc. (Bentley) is recalling certain 2021 Bentayga vehicles. The front passenger seat belt automatic locking retractors may deactivate early, which can prevent the child restraint system from securing properly. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicles Safety Standard number 208, "Occupant Crash Protection."

### **Consequence:**

An unsecured child restraint system can increase the risk of injury during a crash.

#### Remedy

Dealers will inspect the front passenger seat belt assemblies, and if necessary, replace the seat belts free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed October 1, 2021. Owners may contact Bentley customer service at 1-800-777-6923. Bentley's number for this recall is RE21/31 (RC13).

#### **Notes:**

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.nhtsa.gov.



We note that your report states that Bentley believes that this matter does not have a safety risk. In our view, this statement has no force or effect in terms of Bentley's obligation to undertake and complete the recall, and NHTSA does not agree with it.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Bentley Motors, Inc.'s contact for this recall will be DeMara Magruder who may be reached by email at demara.magruder@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigation

Enforcement

