



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**National Highway Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

October 28, 2021

Mr. David Kim  
Tesla, Inc.  
45500 Fremont Blvd  
Fremont, CA 94538

NEF-107SS  
21V-834

**Subject:** Side Curtain Air Bag May Be Twisted/FMVSS 214, 226

Dear Mr. Kim:

This letter serves to acknowledge Tesla, 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:**

TESLA/MODEL 3/2020-2021

**Mfr's Report Date:** October 25, 2021

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 21V-834

**Components:**

AIR BAGS:SIDE/WINDOW:CURTAIN

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 2

**Problem Description:**

Tesla, Inc. (Tesla) is recalling certain 2020-2021 Model 3 vehicles. The left and/or right side curtain air bag may have been improperly secured to the roof rail, which could result in a twisted air bag. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard numbers 214, "Side Impact Protection" and 226, "Ejection Mitigation."

**Consequence:**

A twisted side curtain air bag may improperly deploy, increasing the risk of injury or occupant ejection during a crash.

**Remedy:**

Tesla Service will inspect and realign the left and right side curtain air bag as necessary, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed December 24, 2021. Owners may contact Tesla customer service at 1-877-798-3752. Tesla's number for this recall is SB-21-20-006.

**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](http://www.nhtsa.gov).

Please ensure the following requirements are met:

The percentage of products estimated to contain the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(4)). If less than 1%, amend your filing to state 1% and provide the actual calculated amount in the first product text box.

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

Per the requirements of 49 USC 30119, please provide the part number, name and description of the component or components involved in this recall. This information should be provided in an amended 573 in the "Involved Components" section.

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

Your company's program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of your company's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with § 573.13. Your company's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by § 573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in your company's report to NHTSA. If your company submits one or more general reimbursement plans, your company shall update each plan every two years (§ 573.13). If the vehicles are new and would be covered under the manufacturer's warranty program, please state that in the remedy section of your filing.

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

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).

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.

Tesla, Inc.'s contact for this recall will be Sarah Shiver who may be reached by email at [sarah.shiver@dot.gov](mailto:sarah.shiver@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement