

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21V-031

Manufacturer Name : BMW of North America, LLC

Submission Date : JAN 29, 2021

NHTSA Recall No. : 21V-031

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 : 21

Estimated percentage with defect : 4 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2021-2021 BMW X5 sDrive40i, X5 xDrive40i, X5M

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Approximately 12 vehicles may not have had the steering column shaft assembled to specifications.

Basis for recall population determination: Vehicle assembly information was reviewed to determine the production dates of potentially affected vehicles.

Recall component difference to non-recall component: The steering column shaft may not have been assembled to specifications.

Production Dates : SEP 08, 2020 - SEP 16, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2021-2021 BMW X6 sDrive40i, X6 xDrive40i

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Approximately 2 vehicles may not have had the steering column shaft assembled to specifications.

Basis for recall population determination: Vehicle assembly information was reviewed to determine the production dates of potentially affected vehicles.

Recall component difference to non-recall component: The steering column shaft may not have been assembled to specifications.

Production Dates : SEP 09, 2020 - SEP 17, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2021-2021 BMW X7 xDrive40i, X7 M50i

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Approximately 4 vehicles may not have had the steering column shaft assembled to specifications.

Basis for recall population determination: Vehicle assembly information was reviewed to determine the production dates of potentially affected vehicles.

Recall component difference to non-recall component: The steering column shaft may not have been assembled to specifications.

Production Dates : SEP 10, 2020 - SEP 16, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2021-2021 BMW X5 xDrive45e

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : SUV

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : Approximately 3 vehicles may not have had the steering column shaft assembled to specifications.

Basis for recall population determination: Vehicle assembly information was reviewed to determine the production dates of potentially affected vehicles.

Recall component difference to non-recall component: The steering column shaft may not have been assembled to specifications.

Production Dates : SEP 10, 2020 - SEP 14, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : This safety recall involves the steering column shaft. During vehicle assembly, the bolt connecting a universal joint to the shaft may not have been tightened to specifications.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Over time, the steering column shaft's universal joint connection could become loose, which could affect vehicle handling and control, and increase the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The driver will be alerted by unusual noise and/or some "play" from the area of the steering column.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : N/A; vehicle assembly issue.

Component Description : N/A; vehicle assembly issue.

Component Part Number : N/A; vehicle assembly issue.

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : BMW AG

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

On January 13, 2021, a non-US field report was received which indicated that a vehicle had some unusual noise and extra “play” in the steering system. The vehicle was inspected, and it was noted that the steering column shaft’s universal joint was loose. An engineering review was initiated.

A review of vehicle assembly information and production process records was performed. Vehicle build configuration, assembly line process records, and other quality assurance information was analyzed.

The analyses determined that an unexpected vehicle sequencing issue occurred involving electronic torque tool information that could allow a vehicle to exit assembly without having had the steering column shaft’s universal joint attached to specifications. Vehicles with an out-of-specification condition could have been released, while vehicles assembled to specifications could have been diverted, unnecessarily, to a rework station.

On January 22, 2021, BMW decided to conduct a voluntary recall.

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 steering column shaft’s universal joint will be inspected and, depending upon the inspection, either the bolt will be replaced and tightened to specifications, or, the steering column shaft, universal joint, and bolt will be replaced and tightened to specifications.

Owners will be notified by First Class mail and instructed to take their vehicles to an authorized BMW center to have the remedy performed for free. If this condition were to occur on a potentially affected vehicle prior to this recall, the remedy would be covered by the BMW New Vehicle Limited Warranty program. Therefore, reimbursement for a pre-notification remedy re Part 573.13 and Part 577.11 is not necessary.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Recalled Component: N/A; component not defective; vehicle assembly issue.

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 January 29, 2021.
Notification to owners is planned to begin and end on March 23, 2021.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JAN 29, 2021 - JAN 29, 2021

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAR 23, 2021 - MAR 23, 2021

* NR - Not Reported