

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21V-078

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Submission Date : FEB 17, 2021

NHTSA Recall No. : 21V-078

Manufacturer Recall No. : 69BV



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Address : 3800 Hamlin Road

Auburn Hills MI 48326

Company phone : 1-800-893-5298

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 26,967

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2020-2021 Audi Q7

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : All Audi Q7 product improvement vehicles produced for the North American market until CW 50/2020 are affected by this issue. Vehicles not included in the recall either have not been produced with the affected airbag parameters or have already received an update at the factory or the port.

Q7 count: 26,967

Production Dates : OCT 24, 2019 - DEC 19, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WA1VXAF7XLD000090 **End :** WA1LJAF71MD025907 Not sequential

Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : Audi has decided that the affected vehicles may not fully comply with section 22-26 of FMVSS208, "Occupant crash protection". During conformity-of-production testing using unbelted, out of position 6-year-old test dummies in the front passenger seating position, the dummy instrumentation recorded a "Normalized neck injury criteria" (Nij) of 1,01 in position 2 (dummy's chest on the instrument panel) which slightly exceeds the permitted value of 1,00.

FMVSS 1 : 208 - Occupant crash protection

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Although it is unsafe and strongly inadvisable for a child occupant to ride unsecured in the front passenger seat, a child in that position at the time of a crash necessitating air bag deployment may be subject to an increased risk of injury.

Description of the Cause : Investigations have found that the second stage of the dual-stage airbag may get activated too soon after stage 1 in certain cases in a very specific low speed front crash scenario (26 km/h, full frontal). This scenario was not properly accounted for in the airbag inflation parameters of the airbag control module.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NONE

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : NR

Component Description : NR

Component Part Number : NR

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Audi AG

Address : NR

Ingolstadt Foreign States 85045

Country : Germany

Chronology :

October 28, 2020: During a conformity-of-production testing using unbelted, out of position 6-year-old test dummies in the front passenger seating position, the dummy instrumentation recorded a "Normalized neck injury criteria" (Nij) of 1,01 in position 2 (dummy's chest on the instrument panel) which slightly exceeds the permitted value of 1,00. Immediate investigation regarding root cause and consequences commenced.

November - December 2020: Additional Out-of-position tests were conducted to evaluate airbag restraint performance and to identify the root cause. Investigations have found that the second stage of the dual-stage airbag may be activated too soon after stage 1 in certain cases in a very specific low speed front crash scenario (26 km/h, full frontal).

CW 50/2020: Topic is reported to the Product Safety Committee and series production is changed by a updated parameters for the airbag control module.

December - January 2021: Preparation of test results and documents for Product Safety Committee.

January 28, 2021: Topic was presented to the pre-clarification for the Product Safety Committee. The field situation showed that Audi has not received any reports, nor is Audi otherwise aware of any accidents or injuries related to this issue.

February 10, 2021: Topic was presented to the Product Safety Committee and a voluntary non-compliance

recall is decided.

Date of determination: February 10, 2021

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : The parameters of the airbag control module will be updated on the affected vehicles. All covered vehicles are still under warranty so a reimbursement program will not be offered.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : No hardware change, the respective parameters of the airbag control module will be updated.
The new parameters of the airbag control module assure that the second stage of the passenger airbag gets activated at the specified time after the first stage.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Airbag control module with new parameters was introduced in production in CW 50/2020.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers/owners: on or before April 16, 2021

Planned Dealer Notification Date : APR 16, 2021 - APR 16, 2021

Planned Owner Notification Date : APR 16, 2021 - APR 16, 2021

* NR - Not Reported