

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21V-868

Manufacturer Name : Tesla, Inc.**Submission Date :** DEC 15, 2021**NHTSA Recall No. :** 21V-868**Manufacturer Recall No. :** SB-21-20-007**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Tesla, Inc.

Address : 3500 Deer Creek Road
Palo Alto CA 94304

Company phone : 650-413-4000

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 7,600

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2021-2021 Tesla Model S

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population includes select MY 2021 Model S and Model X vehicles and was determined based upon a review of supplier testing and manufacturing records and Tesla service records.

Production Dates : JUN 21, 2021 - SEP 29, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2021-2021 Tesla Model X

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population includes select MY 2021 Model S and Model X vehicles and was determined based upon a review of supplier testing and manufacturing records and Tesla service records.

Production Dates : SEP 03, 2021 - SEP 23, 2021

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : The driver airbag cushion fabric may tear during deployment.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : A tear in the airbag cushion fabric may decrease airbag performance during deployment, which may increase the risk of injury during a collision.

Description of the Cause : New production at one of the supplier's manufacturing locations may have introduced variability in the wrapping and scoring processes for the cover door, such that the airbag may catch the cover door during airbag deployment, which in turn may cause a tear in the airbag cushion fabric.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The customer will not receive advance warning due to the nature of the failure mechanism.

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Driver Airbag

Component Description : DRIVER AIRBAG ASSEMBLY

Component Part Number : 1625769-71-D

Component Name 2 : Driver Airbag

Component Description : DRIVER AIRBAG ASSEMBLY

Component Part Number : 1625769-72-D

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : TRW Steering Wheel Systems de Chihuahua,

Address : Av. Juan Escutia No. 3201

Parque Industrial El Saucito Chihuahua Foreign States 31125

Country : Mexico

Chronology :

- On June 29, 2021, the supplier began manufacturing Model S/X driver airbags at its Chihuahua, Mexico facility.
- On July 12, 2021, the supplier identified a tear in a deployed airbag sample during quality assurance (QA) testing. Per standard protocol, all airbag units in the affected lot were contained at the supplier's facility and were not released for shipment.
- That same day, the supplier and Tesla commenced an investigation of the tear condition.

- On August 3, 2021, the investigation concluded and identified a variation in the wrapping and scoring of the cover door. The supplier implemented a manufacturing countermeasure on the same day.
- On August 19, 2021, the supplier identified a second tear in a deployed airbag sample during QA testing. Again, all airbag units in the affected lot were contained at the supplier's manufacturing facility and were not released for shipment.
- The supplier and Tesla conducted further investigative analysis and testing and identified a specific location on the airbag in which to reinforce the cushion fabric to make it more robust to variability in the cover door and prevent tearing if the airbag caught the cover door during deployment. The supplier implemented this additional manufacturing countermeasure on September 9, 2021.
- Between September 9, 2021, and October 29, 2021, Tesla worked with the supplier to rule out other possible root causes for the tear condition, assess the safety impact, and identify the scope of a potentially affected vehicle population.
- On November 2, 2021, a recall determination was made for driver airbags manufactured by the supplier at its Chihuahua, Mexico facility between June 29, 2021, and September 8, 2021. Tesla is not aware of any injury, warranty claims or customer complaints related to the condition.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : As a precautionary measure, Tesla will replace the driver airbag on all affected vehicles.

Tesla does not plan to include a statement in the Part 577 owner notification about pre-notice reimbursement to owners since all of the involved vehicles remain covered under the new vehicle warranty.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The replacement component is a new design that introduces reinforcement in the cushion fabric where the tear was observed in the recalled component.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The new airbag design was implemented in the supplier's production at its Chihuahua facility on September 9, 2021.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : All Tesla stores and service centers will be notified on or shortly after November 10, 2021. Owner notification letters will be mailed in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 577.7.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 10, 2021 - NOV 10, 2021

Planned Owner Notification Date : JAN 07, 2022 - JAN 07, 2022

* NR - Not Reported