SB-10052110-1422



Attention Mazda Service Managers:

Mazda has been advised by the US Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) that they plan to announce a consumer advisory on Wednesday, October 10 at 10 am eastern time regarding counterfeit air bags. NHTSA, along with law enforcement, has taken action against some people who were importing and selling counterfeit airbags that were manufactured in China. Internet searches on sites like eBay have also uncovered thousands of air bags for sale that are of unknown origin. NHTSA advises that tens of thousands of counterfeit air bags may have been sold in the US over the past three years. The 2004 and 2010-2012 MAZDA3 have been identified as models that may have had these counterfeit air bags installed, although NHTSA advises that the potentially affected makes and models is not completely known. There is no indication that counterfeit air bags were installed by Mazda dealers.

As part of their consumer advisory, NHTSA may recommend that consumers who are unsure about the air bags in their vehicles contact their dealers or manufacturers for guidance. The latest information from NHTSA can be found on their www.safercar.gov website. MNAO will soon be sending out more detailed information to our dealers with suggestions on how to handle customer inquiries related to this matter.

Technical Services Division