

Subarunet Announcement

To: All Subaru Retailers

From: Subaru of America, Inc.

Date: November 21, 2019

REMINDER: Interim Owner Notification WUM-98 Forester Passenger-side Front Airbag ODS Recall

Interim Owner Notification

Subaru will notify all affected vehicle owners by first class mail on December 2nd advising them of this recall. We expect parts to be available starting around December 15th, and customers will be re-notified regarding parts availability in phases and to schedule an appointment for repair. A copy of the interim owner notification letter is now included in the WUM-98 Product Campaign Bulletin on STIS.

Background

Subaru of America, Inc. (Subaru) is recalling certain 2015-2018 model year Forester vehicles to replace the passenger-side front airbag Occupant Detection System (ODS) harness. A total of 365,515 U.S. vehicles will be affected by this recall.

Affected Vehicles

Model Year	Carline	Production Date Range	Vehicle count
2015-2018	Forester	January 20, 2015 – August 01, 2017	365,515

Not all vehicles in the production range listed above are affected by this recall. Coverage must be confirmed by using the Vehicle Coverage Inquiry function on subarunet.com. Once parts start to become available, the status of the recall coverage will be updated to "Open – Limited Parts Available" to allow for claim entry.

Reason for this Recall

Over time, due to a decrease in contact pressure between terminals in the ODS sensor mat harness, a temporarily unstable electrical connection may be possible. If the connection is temporarily unstable, the ODS may not properly determine the status of the right front seat occupant.

Safety Risk

If the ODS is unable to correctly determine the status of a front occupant, the airbag warning light may illuminate, and the front passenger airbag may deactivate even though the seat is occupied, increasing the risk of injury to the front passenger in the event of a crash.

Description of the Remedy

For all potentially affected vehicles, Subaru retailers will replace the ODS sensor mat harness with a new part at no cost to the customer, once the harnesses are available.

Retailer Responsibility

Any vehicles listed in any recall that are in retailer stock must be:

1. Immediately identified.
2. Tagged or otherwise marked to prevent their delivery or use prior to repair.
3. Repaired in accordance with the repair procedures outlined in the Product Campaign Bulletin, once the parts become available.

Until the parts are available, this recall cannot be performed. If an affected vehicle is in for service, please inform the owner that their vehicle is affected by this recall and that remedy parts are not yet available, and that all affected owners will be re-notified by mail once the repair can be performed.

Service, Parts, and Claim Instructions

Remedy parts as stated above, should become available December 15, 2019. Please refer to the WUM-98 Product Campaign Bulletin which is posted on STIS for additional details.