

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

20V-658

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Submission Date : OCT 27, 2020

NHTSA Recall No. : 20V-658

Manufacturer Recall No. : 70H8



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 : 94,144

Estimated percentage with defect : 10 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2018-2020 Audi Q7

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : 4-DOOR

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based on the changes in production at the sub-supplier. Only vehicles built between July 2017 and April 2020 are affected. Some of these vehicles have already received the remedy before leaving the factory or the port. Vehicles included in this recall may have received a deformation element at the C-pillar that exceeds the head injury criterion (HIC) required under FMVSS 201u "Occupant Protection in Interior Impact Upper Interior Head Impact Protection". Vehicles not included in the recall are equipped with a deformation element that meets the specification. Audi Q7: 94,144

Production Dates : JUL 24, 2017 - MAR 05, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WA1LXAF76LD005276 **End :** WA1VXAF73LD003820 Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : According to the requirements of FMVSS 201u, the head injury criterion (HIC) shall not exceed 1000. During one Conformity of Production (CoP) test this value measured 1,007 which exceeds the required maximum of 1,000 and therefore presents a noncompliance with FMVSS201u.

FMVSS 1 : 201 - Occupant protection in interior impact

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Theoretically there could be an increased risk if an unbelted passenger's head would hit the C-pillar in case of a crash. However, the vehicles are equipped with curtain airbags and Audi believes that these would adequately protect the passengers in such a case.

Description of the Cause : The deformation elements produced by the sub-supplier may exceed the weight tolerances in certain cases.

Identification of Any Warning None
that can Occur :

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : NR

Component Description : NR

Component Part Number : NR

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Antolin Ebergassing GmbH

Address : Götzendorferstraße 3-5
Ebergassing FOREIGN STATES 2435

Country : Austria

Chronology :

April 2, 2020: One Audi Q7 vehicle failed a conformity of production-test (CoP) with respect to the head injury criterion required by FMVSS201u. Initial analysis started with the supplier.

June 4, 2020: Topic is reported to Audi Product Safety Committee

June - August 2020: Additional investigation regarding root cause and scope of the issue, testing regarding influence of weight tolerances and density of the deformation elements on the HIC value.

September 2020: The Audi Product Safety Committee tasked an analysis with respect to the tolerances in the field. Discussions with the US market regarding the next steps and implementation of this field study.

October 9, 2020: After intense discussions with all affected departments and the field it becomes clear that a field study would take quite long under the current COVID-19 circumstances due to several possible delays in the entire process chain.

October 19, 2020: The Audi Product Safety Committee discusses the topic again. Due to the long time frame that an additional investigation of field parts would require in the current situation, out of an abundance of caution the Audi Product Safety Committee decides a noncompliance recall without further investigation in the field.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : The deformation element will be replaced on the driver's and passenger's side C-pillar.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The new deformation elements are according to specification.
Part number for the deformation element:
4M0 880 619

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Starting in April 2020 , the parts delivered from the sub-supplier have been within specification. The quality and production monitoring processes have also been optimized to avoid similar cases in the future.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers: On or before December 23, 2020

Planned Dealer Notification Date : DEC 23, 2020 - DEC 23, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : DEC 23, 2020 - DEC 23, 2020

* NR - Not Reported