



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

April 30, 2021

Mr. Chris Sandvig
Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.
3800 Hamlin Road
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

NEF-107SS
21V-295

Subject: Rear Axle Lock Nuts May Break

Dear Mr. Sandvig:

This letter serves to acknowledge Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

AUDI/A4/2020-2021
AUDI/A5/2019-2021
AUDI/A6/2020-2021
AUDI/A7/2020-2021
AUDI/A8/2020-2021
AUDI/Q5/2020-2021
AUDI/Q7/2021
AUDI/Q8/2021
AUDI/RS Q8/2021
AUDI/RS5/2019-2021
AUDI/RS6/2021
AUDI/RS7/2021
AUDI/S4/2020-2021
AUDI/S5/2019-2021
AUDI/S5 CABRIOLET/2020-2021
AUDI/S6/2020-2021
AUDI/S7/2020-2021
AUDI/S8/2020-2021
AUDI/SQ5/2020-2021

Mfr's Report Date: April 26, 2021

NHTSA Campaign Number: 21V-295

Components:

SUSPENSION:REAR:AXLE:NON-POWERED AXLE ASSEMBLY

Potential Number of Units Affected: 40,993

Problem Description:

Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. (Audi) is recalling certain 2021 Q7, Q8, Q5 Sportback, SQ5 Sportback, RS6 Avant, RS7, RS



Q8, 2020-2021 Audi S6 sedan, Q5, A8, S8, A7, A6 Allroad, A5 Cabriolet, A4 sedan, A4 Allroad, SQ5, S7, A6 sedan, S5 coupe, S4 sedan, S5 Cabriolet, A5 coupe, 2019-2021 RS5 coupe, A5 Sportback, S5 Sportback, RS5 Sportback vehicles. The lock nut on the trailing arm of the rear axle may break due to stress corrosion.

Consequence:

A broken lock nut may misalign the rear axle, causing a loss of control and increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Dealers will replace the lock nuts and, if necessary, the associated bolts, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed June 25, 2021. Owners may contact Audi customer service at 1-800-253-2834. Audi's number for this recall is 42L1.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.'s contact for this recall will be Sarah Shiver who may be reached by email at sarah.shiver@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement