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

August 10, 2021

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

Subject: Incorrect Seat Belt Assemblies Installed/FMVSS 208

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: VOLKSWAGEN/ID.4/2021

Mfr's Report Date: August 4, 2021

NHTSA Campaign Number: 21V-607

**Components:** SEAT BELTS SEAT BELTS:REAR/OTHER:RETRACTOR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 12,060

## **Problem Description:**

Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. (Volkswagen) is recalling certain 2021 ID4 vehicles. Incorrect rear outboard seat belt assemblies without an automatic locking retractor (ALR) function may have been installed, which can prevent the child restraint system from securing properly. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard number 208, "Occupant Crash Protection."

## **Consequence:**

An unsecured child restraint system can increase the risk of injury during a crash.

## **Remedy:**

Dealers will inspect, and replace as necessary, the rear outboard seat belt assemblies, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed October 1, 2021. Owners may contact Volkswagen customer service at 1-800-893-5298. Volkswagen's number for this recall is 69CQ.

## 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.nhtsa.gov.



1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

> NEF-107SS 21V-607

We note that your report states that Volkswagen believes that this matter does not have a safety risk. In our view, this statement has no force or effect in terms of Volkswagen's obligation to undertake and complete the recall, and NHTSA does not agree with it.

We have received Volkswagen's proposed owner notification letter and have approved it for distribution.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

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,

Alae Andy,

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

