

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

22V-515

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Submission Date : JUL 20, 2022

NHTSA Recall No. : 22V-515

Manufacturer Recall No. : 68i2



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 : 2,584

Estimated percentage with defect : 75 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2022-2022 AUDI S3 SEDAN

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined by records of the vehicle assembly information. The recalled products differ from products that were not included in the recall because production records indicate that recalled vehicles were assembled with seat belt assembly's that may not reach the intended level of retention force.
S3 SEDAN: 363

Production Dates : JUL 08, 2021 - JAN 25, 2022

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUH3DGYXNA000583 End : WAUJ3DGY4NA046413 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2022-2022 AUDI A3 SEDAN

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined by records of the vehicle assembly information. The recalled products differ from products that were not included in the recall because production records indicate that recalled vehicles were assembled with seat belt assembly's that may not reach the intended level of retention force.
A3 SEDAN: 2221

Production Dates : JUL 26, 2021 - JAN 26, 2022

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUHUDGY1NA000680 End : WAUGUDGY8NA047460 Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The retention force of the seat belt tensioner on the front seats (driver and passenger side) in affected vehicles may not reach the intended level.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : The seat belt tensioner in the affected vehicles serve the purpose of holding the passenger in his position in the seat and this function is present. In the event of a crash, the retention force of the seat belt may not reach the intended level. As a result, the position of the body can be further to the front of the seat, which leads to a negative influence on the whole restraint system, increasing the risk of injury.

Description of the Cause : Due to variation and wear of the tools in production of the seat belt assembly, the retention force of the seat belt may not reach the intended level.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Seat Belt Assembly

Component Description : Reversible Belt Tensioner

Component Part Number : 8Y0857705 J and 8Y0857706 J

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : ZF Passive Safety Czech s.r.o.

Address : Hlavenec 161

Hlavenec Foreign States 294 74

Country : Czech Republic

Chronology :

January 10, 2022: While performing a release crash test for Audi RS3 for the South Korea market, the retention force of the seat belt was recognized as being lower than intended.

January - February 2022: The supplier of the seat belt assembly was contacted and Audi AG was informed that the deviation in production of the seat belt assembly was already noticed and solved on the produced parts

from January 07, 2022 on. The topic was submitted to the Audi Product Safety Committee. Computer simulations were performed to verify the impact of the retention force being lower than intended. Blocking of all affected vehicles still in production followed by a replacement of the seat belt assembly.

March - June 2022: Affected scope of vehicles in the field was verified and parts from these vehicles were gathered for testing purposes. CT scans of the seat belt tensioner to verify the effect on the produced parts were carried out. Regular meetings between Audi AG and the supplier were conducted to specify testing plans and improve the production processes. Parts with a decreased level of retention force were built on purpose for crash testing.

July 13, 2022: The Audi Product Safety Committee decides a voluntary worldwide safety recall.

Audi is not aware of any warranty claims or customer claims due to this issue.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Replace the driver and front passenger seat belt assemblies. Audi will offer a reimbursement plan under this recall.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The recalled components are seat belt assemblies with part numbers 8Y0857705 J and 8Y0857706 J from the affected production period.

The remedy components have the same part numbers but have been built with higher joining forces on a new tool.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Vehicles produced after January 26, 2022 have been built with seat belt assemblies produced with improved joining parameters on a new tool and reach the intended level of retention force.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers/owners: On or before September 16, 2022

Planned Dealer Notification Date : SEP 16, 2022 - SEP 16, 2022

Planned Owner Notification Date : SEP 16, 2022 - SEP 16, 2022

* NR - Not Reported