

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

22V-673

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Submission Date : SEP 08, 2022

NHTSA Recall No. : 22V-673

Manufacturer Recall No. : 20DS



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 : 13,004

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2021-2022 AUDI Q3

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 fuel tanks in which the internal vent pipe may have been damaged during assembly and the vehicle is less than 6 months at the customer.

Q3 count: 13004

Production Dates : OCT 21, 2020 - JUN 04, 2022

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WA1EECF34M1043535 **End :** WA1EECF37N1142853 Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The vent pipe within the fuel tank may have been damaged during fuel tank assembly.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : In case of damage on the vent pipe, fuel might enter this pipe and rise to the fuel filler cap due to the pressure within the fuel tank. Upon opening the fuel filler cap that might lead to fuel spilling out of the filler neck, increasing the risk of injury. Fuel within the vent pipe can also lead to the fuel pump clicking off while trying to re-fuel the vehicle.

Description of the Cause : Due to sharp edges on gripping tools that hold individual parts in position during the assembly of the fuel tank, the internal vent pipe may have been damaged.

Identification of Any Warning None
that can Occur :

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : fuel tank

Component Description : fuel tank

Component Part Number : 5QF 201 021 MD

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : TI Automotive Hungary Kft.

Address : Körtefa u.
Győr Foreign States 9027

Country : Hungary

Chronology :

March 1, 2022: Through regular processes of field monitoring Audi discovered that re-fueling on several Audi Q3 quattro was not possible due to the fuel pump clicking off.

April 14, 2022: Audi became aware of customer claims where fuel spilled out of the fuel filler neck after re-fueling.

May - June 2022: The topic was submitted to the Audi Product Safety Committee. Three fuel tanks that were replaced on consumer vehicles were sent to the supplier for detailed analyses. It was determined that there was fuel in the ventilation system, and a hole in the internal vent pipe was discovered. The damage on the pipe could be traced back to a gripping tool which was then optimized, and an additional visual check was introduced in production on June 03, 2022.

July - August 2022: A method for verifying the condition of the vent pipe was developed and further parts from field cases are collected for analyses. Additional process steps within the assembly of the fuel tank were analyzed and it was found out that individual parts of the vent pipe system were slightly twisted while being held down in the pre-assembly station. The pre-assembly station was optimized accordingly on July 25, 2022. The affected production period and the stock of affected assemblies was verified.

August 31, 2022: The Audi Product Safety Committee decides a voluntary safety recall.

For this topic there were 192 warranty claims at the time the APS decision was made (August 31, 2022). Audi is not aware of any crashes or injuries due to this issue.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : The internal vent pipe will be checked for damage by pressurizing the fuel tank. In cases of fuel spilling out the fuel filler neck, the fuel tank and the charcoal canister will be replaced.

Audi will not offer a reimbursement plan under this recall.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The recalled component is the fuel tank with part number 5QF 201 021 MD from the affected production period.
The remedy component has the part number 5QF 201 060 AN, that is produced as a service part and after the optimization of the production process

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Vehicles produced after June 04, 2022 have been assembled with fuel tanks that have been built using improved tools for the assembly process and an additional visual check.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers/owners: On or before November 04, 2022
Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 04, 2022 - NOV 04, 2022
Planned Owner Notification Date : NOV 04, 2022 - NOV 04, 2022

* NR - Not Reported