

Subarunet Announcement

To: All Subaru Retailers

From: Subaru of America, Inc.

Date: April 5, 2023

New Safety Recall/STOP SALE: WRH-23 Tire Bead Damage

Subaru of America, Inc. (Subaru) is initiating a new safety recall and stop sale for certain 2023 model year Ascent vehicles equipped with 20-inch wheels.

Description of the Defect and Safety Risk

The vehicles included in this recall/stop sale may be equipped with tires that were damaged during the wheel mounting and assembly process. A misaligned bead guide arm on the tire mounting equipment may have caused excessive stress on the tire bead during mounting, possibly causing damage to the internal structure of the tire.

Internal damage to the tire bead may lead to structural failure of the tire and rapid tire deflation, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy

For all potentially affected vehicles, Subaru retailers will remove and replace all four tires with new ones at no cost to the customer. All removed tires should be rendered unusable and be disposed of according to local regulations.

Affected Vehicles

A total of 4,409 U.S. Subaru Ascent vehicles will be affected by this recall, as listed below:

Model Year	Carline	Production Date Range
2023	Ascent (w/20" wheels)	December 1, 2022 – January 5, 2023

Not all vehicles in the production date range listed above are affected by this recall. Coverage must be confirmed by using the Vehicle Coverage Inquiry function on subarunet.com prior to repair. This information is now available.

Retailer Responsibility

Please be advised that it is a violation of Federal law for a dealer to deliver a new motor vehicle covered by a recall under a sale or lease until the defect is remedied. Therefore, any Authorized Subaru Retailer failing to perform the applicable service procedures to correct all affected vehicles in their inventory prior to the vehicle being placed in service may be subject to civil penalties of up to \$22,423 per violation (i.e., for each vehicle), as provided in 49 CFR §578.6 and will also be in breach of the Subaru Dealer Agreement.

Any vehicles listed in any recall/campaign that are in retailer stock must be:

- Immediately identified
- Tagged or otherwise marked to prevent their delivery or use prior to repair
- Repaired in accordance with the repair procedures outlined in the Product Campaign Bulletin

Retailers are to promptly perform the applicable service procedures, to correct all affected vehicles in their inventory (used, demo & SSLP). Whenever a vehicle subject to this recall is taken into retailer inventory necessary steps should be taken to ensure the recall correction has been made before selling or releasing the vehicle.

Owner Notification

Subaru will notify affected vehicle owners by first class mail in May. Retailers will be notified when the owner notification has been scheduled.

Service, Parts, and Claim Instructions

The WRH-23 Product Campaign Bulletin will be available on STIS by the end of this week. The service, parts, and claim instructions that will be included in the bulletin are listed below, so that affected stop sale vehicles may be repaired:

PART INFORMATION:

The tires are to be ordered using the normal ordering process through the Subaru Tire Center.

Part Description	Part Number	Quantity
245/50 20.0 ZIEX ZE001 A/S FALKEN	45HROZE001AS	4

SERVICE PROCEDURE / INFORMATION:

REMINDER: Customer satisfaction and retention starts with performing quality repairs.

STEP 1: Replace ALL four tires following the Service Procedures supplied in the applicable Service Manual.

STEP 2: Using a unibit, drill bit, or hole saw, **CAREFULLY** drill one hole in the sidewall of ALL four tires. It is important to perform this step to confirm the tires cannot be re-used in any way. See the example images below.



STEP 3: CONFIRM ALL the wheel nuts are torqued in a star pattern to 120 Nm (12.2kgf-m, 88.5ft-lb).

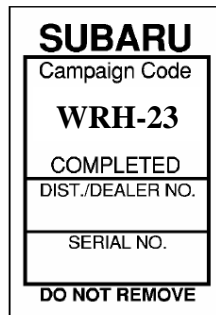
IMPORTANT:

- The Tire Pressure Monitor System (TPMS) re-registration is NOT REQUIRED after tire replacement. The only exception to this is if a TPMS sensor requires replacement. In that case, follow the TPMS registration procedure supplied in the applicable Service Manual.
- Perform a road test when the repair is complete to confirm there are no TPMS or sound issues.

SERVICE PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION LABEL:

Type or print the necessary information on a Campaign Identification Label. The completed label should be attached to the vehicle’s upper radiator support. Additional labels are available through normal parts ordering channels. The part number is **MSA6P1302**, which comes as one sheet of 20 labels.

Part Number	Applicability	Description	Order Quantity
MSA6P1302	All Models	Campaign Completion Labels (contains one sheet of 20 labels)	1



CLAIM REIMBURSEMENT AND ENTRY PROCEDURES:

Credit to perform this recall will be based on properly completed repair order information. Retailers may submit claims through Subarunet.com.

Labor Description	Labor Operation #	Labor Time	Fail Code
4 OEM TIRES R&R	A112-104	1.0	WRH-23

NOTE: Up to \$20.00 dollars can be claimed in sublet for tire disposal.