

Subarunet Announcement

To: All Subaru Retailers

From: Subaru of America, Inc.

Date: February 7, 2020

UPDATE: Owner Notification WUM-98 Forester Passenger-side Front Airbag ODS Recall

Owner Notification

Subaru will notify all affected vehicle owners by first class mail in weekly phases starting on February 11, 2020 through March 13, 2020 that sufficient parts supply is now available for this recall. Affected VIN lists were previously distributed in November to each Regional office.

Background

Subaru of America, Inc. (Subaru) is recalling certain 2015-2018 model year Forester vehicles to replace the passenger-side front airbag Occupant Detection System (ODS) harness. A total of 365,515 U.S. vehicles will be affected by this recall.

Affected Vehicles

| Model Year | Carline | Production Date Range | Vehicle count |
|------------|----------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| 2015-2018 | Forester | January 20, 2015 – August 01, 2017 | 365,515 |

Not all vehicles in the production range listed above are affected by this recall. Coverage must be confirmed by using the Vehicle Coverage Inquiry function on subarunet.com. The status of the recall coverage has been updated to "Open."

Reason for this Recall

Over time, due to a decrease in contact pressure between terminals in the ODS sensor mat harness, a temporarily unstable electrical connection may be possible. If the connection is temporarily unstable, the ODS may not properly determine the status of the right front seat occupant.

Safety Risk

If the ODS is unable to correctly determine the status of a front occupant, the airbag warning light may illuminate, and the front passenger airbag may deactivate even though the seat is occupied, increasing the risk of injury to the front passenger in the event of a crash.

Description of the Remedy

For all potentially affected vehicles, Subaru retailers will replace the ODS sensor mat harness with a new part at no cost to the customer.

Service, Parts, and Claim Instructions

Please refer to the WUM-98 Product Campaign Bulletin which is posted on STIS for additional details.

Retailer Responsibility

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

1. Immediately identified.
2. Tagged or otherwise marked to prevent their delivery or use prior to repair.
3. Repaired in accordance with the repair procedures outlined in the Product Campaign Bulletin, once the parts become available.

Retailers are to promptly perform the applicable service procedures, to correct all affected vehicles in their inventory (used, demo & SSLP). Additionally, 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.