

## Subarunet Announcement

**To: All Subaru Retailers**

**From: Subaru of America, Inc.**

**Date: August 26, 2022**

### **UPDATE: WRE-22 Backup lamp switch failure safety recall**

#### ***Service, Parts, and Claim Instructions***

The WRE-22 Product Campaign Bulletin will be available on September 2, 2022.

- One required tool kit, SOA635173, will be shipped to each retailer next week.
- For all potentially affected vehicles, Subaru retailers will conduct an inspection and replace the backup lamp switch with improved one, if necessary, at no cost to the customer.
- The backup lamp switch kits must be ordered through PRIME.

Please refer to the bulletin for detailed information once it is posted on STIS.

#### ***Owner Notification***

Subaru will notify affected vehicle owners by first class mail on September 16, 2022. The VIN status will be changed to 'Open' on September 2, to allow for repairs to begin on affected vehicles that are presented for other services prior to owner notification.

Subaru of America, Inc. (Subaru) is initiating a new safety recall for certain 2015-2021 model year WRX STI vehicles, which may contain a defective backup lamp switch.

#### ***Description of the Defect and Safety Risk***

The operating environment of the backup lamp switch may expose the internal switch contacts to heated oil. When heated, sulfur in the oil may cause a chemical reaction with the materials used on the switch terminal contact surfaces and plate spring. This chemical reaction may cause corrosion and a non-conductive film to form on the contacts resulting in poor electrical conductivity.

Over time, the backup lamp switch may become inoperative which may result in the backup lamps not illuminating when in reverse gear, the rear-view camera (if equipped) not displaying an image, and the select lever/gear position indicator in the combination meter not displaying 'R' for reverse gear.

If the backup lamps do not illuminate when the vehicle is in reverse gear, this may reduce the awareness of other motorists or road users of the driver's intention to operate the vehicle in reverse, increasing the risk of a crash. Additionally, a rear-view camera (if equipped) that does not display an image can reduce the driver's view of what is behind the vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy**

For all potentially affected vehicles, Subaru retailers will conduct an inspection and replace the backup lamp switch with improved one, if necessary, at no cost to the customer.

**Affected Vehicles**

A total of 59,934 U.S. WRX STI vehicles will be affected by this recall, as listed below:

Model Year	Carline	Production Date Range
2015-2021	WRX STI	November 14, 2013 – October 21, 2021

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 prior to repair.

**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.