

Subarunet Announcement

To: All Subaru Retailers

From: Subaru of America, Inc.

Date: June 2, 2023

New Safety Recall: WRJ-23 Front lower arm castle nut torque

Subaru of America, Inc. (Subaru) has initiated a safety recall for certain 2023 model year Ascent vehicles that may be equipped with a front lower control arm with a loose castle nut.

Description of the Defect and Safety Risk

The affected vehicles may be equipped with either a left or right front lower control arm with an insufficiently tightened ball joint castle nut. Over time, the rotational movement of a loose castle nut could result in the sheering of the retention pin. Without a functional retention pin, the castle nut could eventually fall off completely, allowing the ball joint to separate from the lower control arm.

If the ball joint separates from the lower control arm while driving, the vehicle may experience a loss of control, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy

Subaru dealers will inspect the 5 affected vehicles and, if the castle nut is determined to be loose, replace the lower control arm assembly at no cost to the customer.

Affected Vehicles

A total of 5 U.S. vehicles will be included in this recall as listed below. 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. This information is now available.

Model Year	Carline	Production Date Range
2023	Ascent	March 31, 2023 – April 3, 2023

Service, Parts, and Claim Instructions

For detailed service, parts, and claim instructions, please refer to the WRJ-23 Product Campaign Bulletin which is available on STIS. The bulletin indicates by VIN whether the left or right front lower control arm requires inspection for each of the affected 5 vehicles.

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 \$26,315 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 by the end of June. Retailers will be advised when owner notification is scheduled.