Subarunet Announcement

To: All Subaru Retailers
From: Subaru of America, Inc.
Date: August 4, 2014

Subject: New Subaru Recall Campaign: Front Passenger Air Bag Inflators WQM-49

Subaru of America, Inc. (SOA) will be initiating a limited regional recall on certain 2003-2005MY Subaru Legacy, Outback and Baja vehicles, and 2004-2005MY Subaru Impreza (including WRX/STI) vehicles, equipped with certain TK Holdings, Inc. (Takata) front passenger air bag inflators.

Subaru has been requested by NHTSA and Takata to collect and replace the front passenger air bag inflators from vehicles currently or previously registered in Florida, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands for evaluation to determine if the inflators could rupture and cause the air bag to inflate abnormally when activated in a crash. The investigation is focused on these areas due to isolated rupture incidents that occurred in Florida and Puerto Rico, on a wide variety of manufacturer makes and models, to determine if exposure to high levels of absolute humidity may be a contributing factor to the risk of failure.

SOA has not made a determination that a safety defect exists in these vehicles and in fact is not aware of any incidents involving ruptured inflators on the models that will be affected by this recall.

Affected Vehicles

This limited regional recall will include certain 2003-2005MY Subaru Legacy, Outback and Baja vehicles, and certain 2004-2005MY Subaru Impreza (including WRX/STI) vehicles. This will be limited to vehicles currently or previously registered in Florida, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Model Year	Model	Starting production date	Ending production date
2003	Legacy	2/18/2003	6/6/2003
2004	Legacy	3/17/2003	3/1/2004
2005	Legacy	2/23/2004	1/26/2005
2003	Outback	2/18/2003	6/11/2003
2004	Outback	3/13/2003	3/15/2004
2005	Outback	2/6/2004	10/6/2004
2003	Baja	2/18/2003	6/6/2003
2004	Baja	4/7/2003	7/21/2004
2005	Baja	3/16/2004	10/27/2004
2004	Impreza, WRX, STI	1/28/2003	2/13/2004
2005	Impreza, WRX, STI	2/11/2004	12/10/2004

Not all vehicles within these production date ranges are covered by this recall. Coverage for all affected vehicles must be confirmed by using the Vehicle Coverage Inquiry function on subarunet.com. This data will be available when owner notification begins.

Description of the Safety Hazard

In the event of a crash necessitating deployment of an affected passenger frontal air bag, the inflator could rupture with metal fragments striking and potentially seriously injuring the vehicle occupants.

SOA has elected to initiate this recall in support of NHTSA's and the supplier's ongoing investigation of the risk of failure of the passenger airbag inflators installed on the vehicles listed above that are currently or have ever been registered in Florida, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The primary goal is to protect the passengers in these areas for which there have been isolated incidents of inflator rupture on a wide variety of manufacturer makes and models. The secondary goal is to collect air bag inflators for analysis and testing.

Description of Field Action

Replacement of the vehicle's front passenger air bag inflator will be performed on all of the vehicles included in this limited regional recall.

Retailer Program Responsibility

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, or in for service, necessary steps should be taken to ensure the recall correction has been made before selling or releasing the vehicle.

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

- Immediately identified.
- Tagged or otherwise marked to prevent their delivery or use prior to inspection and/or repair.
- Repaired in accordance with the repair procedures outlined in the Product Campaign Bulletin, which will be issued shortly.

Owner Notification

Subaru is in the process of identifying the affected vehicles based on current and historical vehicle registration data. Subaru is also in the process of acquiring replacement parts for these vehicles. When available, Subaru will notify potentially affected vehicle owners by first class mail. This is expected to occur within the next 60 days. Retailers will be advised when owner notification begins.