

Description of remedy

The defect, as described by Takata, is that the propellant may experience a change after long-term exposure to high absolute humidity that may result in the generation of excessively high pressures during deployment. Newly manufactured airbag inflators perform as designed. In order to reduce the risk of an overly aggressive deployment and rupture of the inflator, Mazda is taking the interim step to immediately replace the existing inflator with a newly manufactured inflator of the same design, until an alternative inflator can be developed and manufactured. The NHTSA and Mazda have discussed this approach and agree that it is an appropriate interim step to ensure safety of the vehicle users.

Owners of record will be notified of this issue and instructed to take their vehicles to a Mazda dealer for repair. The dealers will replace the frontal driver side airbag inflator with new one as an interim repair. When the alternative airbag inflators as a permanent remedy are available in the future, Mazda will implement a follow-up, permanent repair under 15V382. Mazda will launch the 15V382 recall action prioritizing the high humid area.

The following statements are the agreement regarding the interim remedy between NHTSA and Mazda.

- NHTSA has published a “Notice of Intent to Open a Coordinated Remedy Program Proceeding for the Replacement of Certain Takata Air Bag Inflators” (the “Coordinated Remedy Program”). See 80 Fed. Reg. 29791 (May 22, 2015). Subject to any orders and/or directives regarding the prioritization, organization, and/or phasing of the remedy, Mazda anticipates that all affected owners will be notified and instructed to take their vehicle to a Mazda dealer to receive a new PSDI-4 inflator (the “interim remedy”). There will be no charge for this service.
- Mazda will continue to work towards the development of an alternative, permanent remedy solution. Mazda will submit a plan to NHTSA that sets forth the anticipated timeline for the development of the alternative, permanent remedy solution and the deadline by which Mazda anticipates that it will be able to make the alternative, permanent remedy solution available to consumers. This plan will be made publicly available to consumers.
- Once the alternative, permanent remedy solution is available, and subject to any orders and/or directives in the Coordinated Remedy Program, Mazda will notify all affected owners under Recall No. 15V-382, including those owners whose vehicles have not yet been remedied under Recall Nos. 14V-344 and 15V-345 and those receiving the “interim remedy,” and it will instruct them to take their vehicles to a Mazda dealer to receive the alternative, permanent remedy solution. There will be no charge for this service.