



**SUBARU**

Fuji Heavy Industries U.S.A., Inc.  
c/o Subaru of America  
PO Box 6000  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-6000  
856-488-8500

August 5, 2015  
Ref. No.: GR15-034

Mr. Frank Borris  
Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attention: Early Warning Division (NVS-217)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: Safety Campaign Report – Wire Harness short circuit in the steering column cover on 2012MY Subaru Impreza (except WRX/STI) and 2013MY Subaru Forester**

Dear Mr. Borris,

Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 579.11(a), Fuji Heavy Industries USA, Inc. is reporting a foreign safety campaign determined by Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd [FHI]. As required in 579.12, here is information regarding this safety campaign:

1. **Type of action:** Safety campaign.

2. **Conducted by:**

Manufacturer - Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd.  
Ebisu Subaru Bldg. 1-20-8, Ebisu, Shibuya-ku  
Tokyo 150-8554

Designated agent – Fuji Heavy Industries USA, Inc.  
PO Box 6000, Subaru Plaza  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-6000

3. **Determination by:** Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd. on July 29, 2015.

4. **Affected Vehicles:** 2012MY Subaru Impreza (except WRX/STI) and 2013MY Subaru Forester

5. **Number of Affected Vehicles:** Approximately 235,000 units.

6. **Affected foreign country:** China, Australia, Germany, Russia, Swiss, Sweden, Norway, Taiwan, Italy, Thailand, UK, Malaysia, Philippines, Chile, Netherlands, Israel, Spain, New Zealand, Austria, France, South Africa, Turkey, Indonesia, Brazil, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Peru, Colombia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Azerbaijan, Oman, Brunei, Iceland, Kenya, Ireland, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, New Caledonia, Uruguay, Egypt, Greece, Cyprus, Qatar, Costa Rica, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Mongolia, Panama, Serbia St. Lucia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Dominican Republic, UAE (Abu Dhabi), Haiti, Angola, Malta, Tahiti, UAE (Dubai), Paraguay, Grenada, Suriname, Sri Lanka, Bermuda, Belgium, Commonwealth Dominica, Cayman Islands, Bangladesh, Jordan, Antigua, Nepal, Bolivia and Fiji.

**7. Description of defect:** The wire harness and the metal plate in the steering column cover (“metal plate” refers to the protection around the driver’s knees in a crash) interact with each other because of wire harness manufacturing variations (e.g. length and orientation of wires). If the vehicle continues to be driven in this condition, the friction between the wire harness and metal plate, which is exacerbated by vehicle vibration, causes the harness coating to wear off, which may result in short circuiting due to exposure of the metal wire. Potential safety-related consequences include deactivation or malfunction of the wiper, headlamp, and/or horn depending on the specific function(s) that are short circuited. Engine stalling may also occur.

**Subaru’s evaluation of this defect on safety**

- Deactivation of the wiper, headlamp, and/or horn functionality is a noncompliance with global regulations.
- Engine stalling may occur if electricity is no longer supplied to the ECU due to blowout of fuse.

**8. Program for remedying the defect:** If damage to the metal wiring is detected, the bulkhead harness needs to be replaced and the urethane foam needs to be attached on the edge of metal plate. If there is no damage to the metal wiring itself, but there is damage to the exterior coating, the coating needs to be fixed with tape and the urethane foam needs to be attached on the edge of metal plate.

**9. Substantially similar U.S. vehicles:** 2012MY Subaru Impreza (except WRX/STI) and 2013MY Subaru Forester are substantially similar to their counterparts for sale in the United States. However, there is no metal plate in the steering column cover on U.S. models. Therefore, there are no affected vehicles in the U.S. market.

If there are any questions or a need for additional information, please contact me by telephone at (443) 430-3619 or by e-mail at [jfro@subaru.com](mailto:jfro@subaru.com).

Sincerely,



John Frooshani  
Safety Activities Manager  
Government Relations

Fuji Heavy Industries USA, Inc.