



SUBARU

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

March 17, 2016
Ref. No.: GR16-009

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: Foreign Safety Recall Campaign Report – Inability to Release Electronic Parking Brake (EPB) on 2015MY Subaru Legacy/Outback and 2015MY Subaru WRX vehicles

Dear Associate Administrator for Enforcement,

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 foreign safety recall campaign:

1. **Type of action:** Non-Compliance

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 March 10th 2016.

4. **Affected Vehicles:** 2015MY Subaru Legacy/Outback and 2015MY Subaru WRX vehicles.

5. **Number of Affected Vehicles:** Approximately 117,000 vehicles

6. **Affected foreign country:** Japan, China, Australia, Sweden, German, Chile, Taiwan, New Zealand, Norway, Israel, U.K., Russia, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Kazakhstan, Netherland, Philippines, Oman, Peru, Austria, Turkey, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Ukraine, France, Vietnam, UAE, Iceland, Kuwait, Lebanon, Bahrain, Ireland, Thailand, Malaysia, Kenya, Qatar, Azerbaijan, Uruguay, Egypt, New Caledonia, Guatemala, Jamaica, Dominica, Serbia, Brunei, Jordan, Costa Rica, Fiji, Cayman Islands, Paraguay, Malta, Mexico, Colombia

7. Description of defect: The system is designed such that the EPB will “clamp” upon initial activation and “re-clamp” 150 seconds after initial activation.

Due to improper software programming of the EPB control module, if the vehicle’s ignition switch is turned to the “ON” position at the same time the EPB is “re-clamping” (defined/described above), an electric current will be provided continuously to the EPB motor, eventually causing the motor to seize and preventing release of the EPB. In this situation, the inability of the EPB to release does not meet the requirements of parking brake control system described in United Nations Regulation No. 13-H (UN No. 13-H).

8. Program for remedying the defect: Subaru will reprogram the EPB software for affected vehicles.

This recall will commence on March 17th, 2016 in Japan and China. At this time or shortly thereafter, the recall will commence in the other affected foreign Countries.

9. Substantially similar U.S. vehicles: 2015MY Subaru Legacy/Outback and 2015MY Subaru WRX are substantially similar to their counterparts for sale in the United States. Subaru determined that this is not a safety issue since there is no comparable US safety regulation to UN No. 13-H. However, Subaru will initiate a service program to remedy affected vehicles in the US 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.

Sincerely,



John Frooshani
Safety Activities Manager
Government Relations
Fuji Heavy Industries USA, Inc.

If this condition were to occur (i.e. the Electronic Parking Brake (EPB) motor seizes), the vehicle would become immobile. This condition is only possible when the vehicle is stationary (i.e. not in motion). Further, a narrow set of circumstances would have to occur to have this issue arise in the first place; more specifically, the vehicle ignition switch would need to be turned to the “ON” position at exactly the same time the EPB is “re-clamping” (which occurs 150 seconds after initial activation of the EPB).

Regarding alerts communicated to the driver:

Upon initial onset of this condition (i.e. the Electronic Parking Brake (EPB) motor seizes), the following alerts may be provided to the driver:

	Flashing	Illuminate
Electronic parking brake indicator light	No	Yes
Brake system warning light	Maybe*	No

*This alert might present itself depending on the EPB motor seizing condition

After the EPB motor seizes, if the driver recycles the ignition and turns it to the ON position again, the following alerts will be provided to the driver:

	Flashing	Illuminate
Electronic parking brake indicator light	No	Yes
Brake system warning light	Yes	No