

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

22V-471

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.**Submission Date :** JUL 01, 2022**NHTSA Recall No. :** 22V-471**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 69BT**Manufacturer Information :****Population :****Manufacturer Name :** Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.**Number of potentially involved :** 28,624**Address :** 3800 Hamlin Road
Auburn Hills MI 48326**Estimated percentage with defect :** 1 %**Company phone :** 1-800-893-5298**Vehicle Information :****Vehicle 1 :** 1998-1998 Audi A8**Vehicle Type :****Body Style :****Power Train :** NR

Descriptive Information : Audi is filing this report to amend the filing made under Audi Safety Recall code 69BT (NHTSA 20V-056) to correct for a clerical error that was made in entering the affected model years for the Audi A8 into the portal. While the original filing contained a clerical error, Audi has confirmed that all affected owners have been notified under the recall according to regulatory requirements and a recall remedy is available. Both the Audi VIN lookup tool and the NHTSA VIN lookup tool have accurately reflected the full affected population. Because of this, Audi will not conduct any further owner notifications as a result of this filing. Based on the suppliers production records all parts produced until August 20th, 1999 were affected. As the inflators have been produced more than 20 years ago traceability of those parts is limited. Therefore, in January 2020 Audi had decided to include all vehicles with NADI inflators produced until December 31, 1999 in recall 69BT (NHTSA 20V-056). In June 2021, based on analysis results and out of an abundance of caution, Audi had additionally decided to conduct a voluntary new safety recall 69CJ (21V-470) for vehicles produced after January 1, 2000 that are equipped with a NADI inflator and were not yet included in the previous recall 69BT (20V-056) as they were not deemed suspect at the time of that decision. All vehicles will be checked in order to determine whether they are equipped with inflators from the affected production period and the affected inflators will be replaced by an alternative inflator. Audi confirms that all affected Takata NADI vehicles have been included in recalls 69CJ and 69BT.

A8: 1,976

Production Dates : SEP 04, 1997 - JUN 23, 1998**VIN Range 1 : Begin :** WAUBG74D2WN000276 **End :** WAUBG34D8WN014076 ☒ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 1997-1998 Audi A4

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Audi is filing this report to amend the filing made under Audi Safety Recall code 69BT (NHTSA 20V-056) to correct for a clerical error that was made in entering the affected model years for the Audi A4 into the portal. While the original filing contained a clerical error, Audi has confirmed that all affected owners have been notified under the recall according to regulatory requirements and a recall remedy is available. Both the Audi VIN lookup tool and the NHTSA VIN lookup tool have accurately reflected the full affected population. Because of this, Audi will not conduct any further owner notifications as a result of this filing. Based on the suppliers production records all parts produced until August 20th, 1999 were affected. As the inflators have been produced more than 20 years ago traceability of those parts is limited. Therefore, in January 2020 Audi had decided to include all vehicles with NADI inflators produced until December 31, 1999 in recall 69BT (NHTSA 20V-056). In June 2021, based on analysis results and out of an abundance of caution, Audi had additionally decided to conduct a voluntary new safety recall 69CJ (21V-470) for vehicles produced after January 1, 2000 that are equipped with a NADI inflator and were not yet included in the previous recall 69BT (20V-056) as they were not deemed suspect at the time of that decision. All vehicles will be checked in order to determine whether they are equipped with inflators from the affected production period and the affected inflators will be replaced by an alternative inflator. Audi confirms that all affected Takata NADI vehicles have been included in recalls 69CJ and 69BT.

A4: 26,648

Production Dates : AUG 04, 1997 - SEP 09, 1998

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUCB88D9VA276026 **End :** WAUAA88G7WN005352 ☒ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Affected vehicles are equipped with Takata Non-Azide Driver Airbag Inflators (NADI) which were produced and sold by Takata. These inflators do not contain phase stabilized ammonium nitrate (PSAN) propellant. According to the equipment defect notification 19E-080 filed by Takata, certain Takata Non-Azide Driver Airbag Inflators have the potential to exhibit elevated moisture ingress due to insufficient aluminum tape seal. This can lead to slow deployment, which may result in insufficient protection by the driver frontal airbag, or there may be over-aggressive combustion creating excessive internal pressure when the driver frontal airbag is deployed. Audi is currently not aware of any inflator ruptures in the field or in test environments in Audi vehicles. Audi is also not aware of any field incidents in Audi vehicles worldwide where the airbag/inflator showed a slow or non-deployment. However, our testing shows that NADI inflators in Audi vehicles could potentially underinflate or not deploy at all due to moisture ingress.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : In case of a crash with airbag deployment, propellant with high moisture content may result in reduced restraint performance, which may lead to an increased risk of injury. Audi vehicles are equipped with a different type of NADI inflators than the ones with reported field incidents. At this point Audi is not aware of any cases worldwide in Audi vehicles involving NADI inflators where the airbag did not perform as designed, neither inflator ruptures nor cases of underinflation.

Description of the Cause : Based upon the investigation by the supplier and our own analysis, the potential for an insufficient airbag performance and all influential factors have not been fully understood so far. The failure mechanism may be influenced by a variety of factors, including the subtype of the NADI inflator, manufacturing variations, climatic conditions, vibration, specifics of vehicle applications or other variables.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Driver Airbag Inflator

Component Description : Driver Airbag Inflator

Component Part Number : 4B0.951.403 4B0.951.403 A

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : Takata (TK Global LLC)

Address : 111 Peyer Court
Romeo Michigan 48065

Country : United States

Chronology :

June 08, 2022: NHTSA reached out to Volkswagen Group of America with a question about the models/model years included in Audi Recall 69BT (NHTSA 20V-056). June 28, 2022: After investigating the matter, Volkswagen determined that a clerical error that was made in entering the affected model years for the Audi A8 and Audi A4 into the NHTSA recall report portal. Audi is filing this report to amend the filing made under Audi Safety Recall code 69BT (NHTSA 20V-056) to correct for a clerical error that was made in entering the affected model years for the A4 & A8 into the portal. Audi has confirmed that all affected owners have been notified under the recall according to regulatory requirements and a recall remedy is available. Both the Audi VIN lookup tool and the NHTSA VIN lookup tool have accurately reflected the full affected population. Because of this, Audi will not conduct any further owner notifications as a result of this filing. Based on the suppliers production records all parts produced until August 20th, 1999 were affected. As the inflators have been produced more than 20 years ago traceability of those parts is limited. Therefore, in January 2020 Audi had decided to include all vehicles with NADI inflators produced until December 31, 1999 in recall 69BT (NHTSA 20V-056). In June 2021, based on analysis results and out of an abundance of caution, Audi had additionally decided to conduct a voluntary new safety recall 69CJ (21V-470) for vehicles produced after January 1, 2000 that are equipped with a NADI inflator and were not yet included in the previous recall 69BT (20V-056) as they were not deemed suspect at the time of that decision. All vehicles will be checked in order to determine whether they are equipped with inflators from the affected production period and the affected inflators will be replaced by an alternative inflator. Audi confirms that all affected Takata NADI vehicles have been included in recalls 69CJ & 69BT.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : At no cost to customers, dealers will replace the driver frontal airbag inflator with an alternative inflator. Audi will not offer a reimbursement program under this recall.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The driver airbag inflator will be replaced with a completely newly designed inflator with Guanidine nitrate (GuNi) propellant.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Based on Takata's production records, all inflators produced from August 21, 1999 have received an improved sealing and are therefore not affected.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : While the original filing contained a clerical error, Audi has confirmed that all affected owners have been notified under the recall according to regulatory requirements and a recall remedy is available. Both the Audi VIN lookup tool and the NHTSA VIN lookup tool have accurately reflected the full affected population. Volkswagen confirms that all affected Takata NADI vehicles have been included in recall 69CJ and 69BT. Because of this, Audi will not conduct any further owner notifications as a result of this filing.

- Dealer notifications were completed on 09/13/2021
- Owner interim notifications were completed on 03/26/2020
- Owner notifications for recall remedy available were completed on 09/21/2021
- 100-day owner reminder notifications were completed on 12/30/2021

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NR - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : NR - NR

* NR - Not Reported

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

20V-056

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.**Submission Date :** SEP 10, 2021**NHTSA Recall No. :** 20V-056**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 69BT**Manufacturer Information :****Population :**

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Number of potentially involved : 106,857

Address : 3800 Hamlin Road
Auburn Hills MI 48326

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Company phone : 1-800-893-5298

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2000-2001 Audi TT ROADSTER

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : "Based on the suppliers production records all parts produced until August 20th, 1999 are affected. As the inflators have been produced more than 20 years ago traceability of those parts is limited. Therefore Audi has decided to include all vehicles with NADI inflators produced until December 31, 1999 in the recall. All vehicles will be checked in order to determine whether they are equipped with inflators from the affected production period.
TT Roadster: 16"

Production Dates : NOV 17, 1999 - DEC 13, 1999

VIN Range 1 : Begin : TRUTC28N7Y1051491 End : TRUTC28N011000159 ☒ Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2000-2000 Audi TT COUPE

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : "Based on the suppliers production records all parts produced until August 20th, 1999 are affected. As the inflators have been produced more than 20 years ago traceability of those parts is limited. Therefore Audi has decided to include all vehicles with NADI inflators produced until December 31, 1999 in the recall. All vehicles will be checked in order to determine whether they are equipped with inflators from the affected production period.
TT Coupe: 6,677"

Production Dates : JAN 20, 1999 - DEC 21, 1999

VIN Range 1 : Begin : TRUTS28N8Y1000102 End : TRUTC28N9Y1101100 ☒ Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 1999-1999 Audi A8

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : "Based on the suppliers production records all parts produced until August 20th, 1999 are affected. As the inflators have been produced more than 20 years ago traceability of those parts is limited. Therefore Audi has decided to include all vehicles with NADI inflators produced until December 31, 1999 in the recall. All vehicles will be checked in order to determine whether they are equipped with inflators from the affected production period.
Audi A8: 4,058"

Production Dates : SEP 04, 1997 - FEB 13, 1999

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUBG34DXXN000276 End : WAUBG34DXXN004201 ☒ Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 1998-2000 Audi A6

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : "Based on the suppliers production records all parts produced until August 20th, 1999 are affected. As the inflators have been produced more than 20 years ago traceability of those parts is limited. Therefore Audi has decided to include all vehicles with NADI inflators produced until December 31, 1999 in the recall. All vehicles will be checked in order to determine whether they are equipped with inflators from the affected production period.
Audi A6: 30,587"

Production Dates : AUG 06, 1997 - OCT 09, 1999

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUBA64BXWN028644 End : WAUZL54B6YN000300 ☒ Not sequential

Vehicle 5 : 1999-2000 Audi A4

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : "Based on the suppliers production records all parts produced until August 20th, 1999 are affected. As the inflators have been produced more than 20 years ago traceability of those parts is limited. Therefore Audi has decided to include all vehicles with NADI inflators produced until December 31, 1999 in the recall. All vehicles will be checked in order to determine whether they are equipped with inflators from the affected production period.
Audi A4: 65,519"

Production Dates : AUG 04, 1997 - DEC 21, 1999

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WAUCB28D8XA003482 End : WAUKC28D4YA112516 ☒ Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Affected vehicles are equipped with Takata Non-Azide Driver Airbag Inflators (NADI) which were produced and sold by Takata. These inflators do not contain phase stabilized ammonium nitrate (PSAN) propellant. According to the equipment defect notification 19E-080 filed by Takata, certain Takata Non-Azide Driver Airbag Inflators have the potential to exhibit elevated moisture ingress due to insufficient aluminum tape seal. This can lead to slow deployment, which may result in insufficient protection by the driver frontal airbag, or there may be over-aggressive combustion creating excessive internal pressure when the driver frontal airbag is deployed. Audi is currently not aware of any inflator ruptures in the field or in test environments in Audi vehicles. Audi is also not aware of any field incidents in Audi vehicles worldwide where the airbag/inflator showed a slow or non-deployment. However, our testing shows that NADI inflators in Audi vehicles could potentially underinflate or not deploy at all due to moisture ingress.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : In case of a crash with airbag deployment, propellant with high moisture content may result in reduced restraint performance, which may lead to an increased risk of injury.

Audi vehicles are equipped with a different type of NADI inflators than the ones with reported field incidents. At this point Audi is not aware of any cases worldwide in Audi vehicles involving NADI inflators where the airbag did not perform as designed, neither inflator ruptures nor cases of underinflation.

Description of the Cause : Based upon the investigation by the supplier and our own analysis, the potential for an insufficient airbag performance and all influential factors have not been fully understood so far. The failure mechanism may be influenced by a variety of factors, including the subtype of the NADI inflator, manufacturing variations, climatic conditions, vibration, specifics of vehicle applications or other variables.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : none

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : NR

Component Description : NR

Component Part Number : NR

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Takata (TK Global LLC)

Address : 111 Peyer Court
Romeo Michigan 48065

Country : United States

Chronology :

October 21, 2019: Audi receives information from supplier regarding field incidents with NADI inflators and possibility that inflators in Audi vehicles may also be involved. Immediate start of Audi-internal investigations and search for parts in order to start analysis.

October 24, 2019: First meeting and start of frequent discussions with supplier.

November 15, 2019: Presentation of the topic to the Audi Product Safety Committee.

November 20, 2019: Decision for a precautionary recall in Australia due to several field incidents in Australia involving other OEM's. Audi is not aware of any field cases or test results where the NADI inflator showed an abnormal performance and NADI inflators in Audi vehicles are not the same type that have shown critical performance in other OEM's vehicles. Audi will use parts from Australian vehicles to perform an analysis program.

December 5, 2019: Skype meeting with NHTSA to inform the agency about the current status of this topic at Audi.

Early January 2020: First parts from German market are being analyzed with the supplier.

Mid-January 2020: First parts from Australian market arrive in Germany and are being analyzed with the supplier.

January 22, 2020: Analysis of NADI inflators from the German market show a possibility of no or slow deployment. Test results are being presented to the Audi Product Safety Committee. Due to a potential non-compliance with FMVSS208 a determination of a safety defect was made.

Audi continues to investigate and evaluate the issue with respect to the possibility of inflator ruptures. At this point Audi does not have any indication of inflator ruptures in the field or in test environments.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : At this point due to the age of the vehicles a repair is not available. Audi is working intensively on a remedy with the supplier but currently it is unclear when the remedy will be available. Registered owners of all affected vehicles will be sent an initial letter informing them the replacement parts needed to remedy their vehicle is currently not available. Once replacement parts are available, registered owners will be sent another letter asking them to take their vehicle to an Audi dealer. The dealer will replace the driver frontal airbag inflator with an alternative inflator.
Audi will not offer a reimbursement program under this recall.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Remedy component not available yet.
Part numbers of recalled component:
4B0.951.403
4B0.951.403 A

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Based on Takata's production records, all inflators produced from August 21, 1999 have received an improved sealing and are therefore not affected.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers/owners: September 2021

Planned Dealer Notification Date : SEP 13, 2021 - SEP 13, 2021

Planned Owner Notification Date : SEP 21, 2021 - SEP 21, 2021

* NR - Not Reported