

Subarunet Announcement

To: All Subaru Retailers
From: Subaru of America, Inc.
Date: October 10, 2017

Subject: New Safety Recall

Recall code WTQ-76: Possible Subwoofer Overheating

Subaru of America, Inc. (Subaru) is recalling certain 2015 model year WRX and STI vehicles equipped with a factory-installed Audio system with Harman Kardon (H/K) Amplifier and Speakers, due to a possible subwoofer overheating condition.

Affected Vehicles

A total of 9,178 U.S. vehicles are affected by this recall. Coverage for all affected vehicles must be confirmed by using the Vehicle Coverage Inquiry function on subarunet.com, prior to repair. This data will be available by mid-October.

Model Year	Models	Production Start Date	Production End Date
2015	WRX & STI w/ H/K Amplifier and Speakers	1/17/2014	4/9/2015

Condition

The subject vehicles are equipped with a factory-installed subwoofer, located inside the trunk. Luggage in the trunk could come in contact with the subwoofer wire and move it out of its fixed position. If the wire touches the metal frame of the subwoofer, an intermittent short may occur causing the integrated circuit (IC) in the subwoofer amplifier to be damaged.

Safety Hazard

If this condition were to occur, the damaged IC may create a continuous electrical current into the subwoofer. As a result, the subwoofer could overheat, increasing the risk of a fire.

Description of the Remedy

The remedy for this condition will involve the installation of a spacer clip kit onto the subwoofer.

Owner Notification

Subaru is in the process of obtaining current vehicle registration data, and will notify potentially affected vehicle owners by first class mail. Owners with a valid email address on file with MySubaru.com will also be notified by email.

Owner notification is expected to occur by the end of October, and retailers will be advised when the notification begins.

Repair and Parts

For detailed information, please refer to the WTQ-76 Product Campaign Bulletin which will be available on STIS, once affected vehicle information has been loaded.

Retailer Program Responsibility

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 available on STIS in the near future.

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.

Retailer Affected VIN Lists

Each Subaru retailer will receive an affected VIN list from their Zone Office when owner notification begins. Vehicles will be assigned to retailers in the affected VIN list as follows:

- Original vehicle owners are assigned to the original selling retailer when their current address is within a 100-mile radius of that retailer.
- If the original selling retailer is inactive, the VIN has been assigned to the nearest active retailer.
- For any new owners or when original owners live more than 100 miles from the original selling retailer, the VIN has been assigned to the nearest active retailer.

Important: Retailer affected VIN lists include information for vehicles affected by this safety recall. This information will enable retailers to follow up with owners of potentially affected vehicles. The lists contain owners' names and phone numbers obtained from State Motor Vehicle Registration Records. The use of such motor vehicle registration data for any other purpose is unlawful. Accordingly, retailers are required to limit the use of these lists for the purpose of completion of this safety recall.