

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

23V-189

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.**Submission Date :** MAR 22, 2023**NHTSA Recall No. :** 23V-189**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 69FA**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Address : 3800 Hamlin Road

Auburn Hills MI 48326

Company phone : 1-800-893-5298

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 5,224

Estimated percentage with defect : 7 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2022-2023 AUDI Q4 E-TRON SUV

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined by records of the vehicle assembly information.

The recalled products differ from products that were not included in the recall because production records show that recalled vehicles were assembled without an additional fixation for the door sealing in the area of the B-pillar.

Q4 E-TRON SUV: 4324

Production Dates : SEP 20, 2021 - JAN 09, 2023

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WA1M2AFZXPP011347 End : WA1BCBFZ8PP024513 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2022-2023 AUDI Q4 E-TRON SPORTBACK

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined by records of the vehicle assembly information.

The recalled products differ from products that were not included in the recall because production records show that recalled vehicles were assembled without an additional fixation for the door sealing in the area of the B-pillar.

Q4 E-TRON SPORTBACK: 900

Production Dates : SEP 27, 2021 - JAN 09, 2023

VIN Range 1 : Begin : WA132BFZ5NP014350 End : WA132BFZ3PP024412 Not sequential

Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : In a crash with head curtain airbag deployment, the airbag could deform the door seal and expose the metal inlay within the seal. If the exposed metal tears the airbag, the airbag would not be able to protect occupants as designed, increasing the risk of injury. Because of this, the vehicles included in this recall may not fully comply with the requirements of an airbag test according to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 226, "Ejection Mitigation".

FMVSS 1 : 226 - Ejection mitigation

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the exposed metal tears the airbag, the airbag would not be able to protect occupants as designed, increasing the risk of injury.

Description of the Cause : Due to slightly overlapping metal parts of the body shell in the area of the B-pillar, the door sealing does not lie flat. This, in combination with the U.S.-specific airbag and interior elements, leads to the described behavior.

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 : AUDI AG

Address : NR

Foreign States 85045

Country : Germany

Chronology :

November 15, 2022: After performing a head-airbag test, as part of the conformity of production monitoring, it was discovered that the airbag material was locally damaged. The sample size was immediately increased and an analysis started.

December 2022 - February 2023: A second test also led to a local damage of the airbag material. All vehicles still in the production line were blocked and the analyses of the root cause was continued. A countermeasure that fastens the door seal in the B-pillar area was introduced in production. The topic was submitted to the Audi Product Safety Committee. The affected scope of vehicles in the field was verified.

March 15, 2023: The Audi Product Safety Committee decides a noncompliance recall.

Audi is not aware of any warranty claims, customer complaints or other field reports due to this issue.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Cloth tape will be installed in driver and front passenger B-pillar area to secure the door seal in place.
Audi will not offer a reimbursement plan under this recall.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : No parts are being replaced.

The remedy component is a cloth tape with the part number D437S40A2.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : Vehicles produced after January 10, 2023 include an additional fixation for the door sealing in the area of the B-pillar.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealers/owners: On or before May 19, 2023

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAY 19, 2023 - MAY 19, 2023

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAY 19, 2023 - MAY 19, 2023

* NR - Not Reported