

AUTOMOTIVE

Jaguar Land Rover enters first wave of Takata airbag recall

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2017 Jaguar XF

By STAFF REPORTS

British automaker Jaguar Land Rover North America is beginning the recall process for vehicles fitted with faulty Takata airbags.

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While the automaker is not aware of any incidents with the passenger side airbags in question, the devices run the risk of deploying abnormally and hitting riders with metal fragments. The first wave of recalls, beginning Aug. 4, addresses 54,000 of the total 108,000 affected vehicles, which include Jaguar XF and Range Rover models.

Preventative measure

The inflators in the Takata non-desiccated ammonium nitrate airbag inflators used have the potential to degrade when exposed to extreme heat and humidity, with varying responses depending on the conditions. If this happens, it raises the likelihood that the inflator housing in the front passenger airbag will rupture.

In the event of a crash, a damaged airbag could deploy abnormally, hitting the front passenger or other riders with metal fragments, resulting in injury or death.

Following regulations from the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act, Jaguar has begun to notify owners of impacted vehicles. In the first round, the automaker is addressing certain 2009-2011 Jaguar XF and 2007-2011 Land Rover Range Rover models.



Image courtesy of Range Rover

The first wave covers vehicles registered in Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The automaker has split the recall into four phases, prioritizing for risk based on the owner's geographic location and their vehicle's age. The recall is expected to run through 2019.

Jaguar's recall adds to what has been the largest safety recall in U.S. history, with 68 million cars fitted with the non-desiccated ammonium nitrate airbag inflators from Takata.

Due to the size of the recall, replacement parts are not readily available at this time. Jaguar Land Rover will let owners know when parts come in later this year, giving them the opportunity to make an appointment to have the part replaced for free.

None of Jaguar Land Rover's current model year vehicles are affected by the recall.

Jaguar Land Rover has been through widespread recalls before, taking the opportunity to right any issues with its vehicles before there are any negative effects.

Last year, the automaker recalled about 36,500 of its Range Rover Evoque SUVs in China following a negative report by local media.

The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine asked for the recall on its Web site, saying the vehicles have defective gearboxes. While a recall may seem like a negative, getting ahead of a potential problem can have a positive impact for an automaker, presenting an opportunity for customer service ([see story](#)).

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