

**NHTSA 42-12** 

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Traffic safety agency urges vehicle owners and repair professionals to use only certified, original equipment replacement parts

**WASHINGTON** – The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has issued a consumer safety advisory to alert vehicle owners and repair professionals to the dangers of counterfeit air bags. NHTSA has become aware of a problem involving the sale of counterfeit air bags for use as replacement parts in vehicles that have been involved in a crash. While these air bags look nearly identical to certified, original equipment parts—including bearing the insignia and branding of major automakers — NHTSA testing showed consistent malfunctioning ranging from non-deployment of the air bag to the expulsion of metal shrapnel during deployment. NHTSA is not aware of any deaths or injuries connected to counterfeit air bags.

While the full scope and scale of the problem of counterfeit air bags is uncertain from currently available data, NHTSA has identified certain vehicle makes and models for which these air bags may be available and believes this issue affects less than 0.1 percent of the U.S. vehicle fleet. Only vehicles which have had an air bag replaced within the past three years by a repair shop that is not part of a new car dealership may be at risk.

Consumers whose vehicles have been in a crash and had their air bags replaced by a repair shop that is not part of a new car dealership within the past three years or who have purchased a replacement air bag online should contact the call center that has been established by

their auto manufacturer to have their vehicle inspected at their own expense and their air bag replaced if necessary. The full list of call centers and additional information are available at www.SaferCar.gov.

"Anytime equipment that is critical to protecting drivers and passengers fails to operate properly, it is a serious safety concern," said Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood. "We want consumers to be immediately aware of this problem and to review our safety information to see if their vehicle could be in need of inspection."

"We expect all motor vehicle equipment to meet federal safety standards—and air bags in particular play a central role in keeping drivers and passengers safe in the event of a crash," said NHTSA Administrator David Strickland. "That's why it's critical that vehicle owners work with their automotive dealers and repair professionals to ensure they use the appropriate, original equipment parts in the event they need to replace their air bag."

NHTSA has been working with a number of government agencies—including U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the U.S. Department of Justice—to better understand the issue of counterfeit air bags and how to prevent them from being purchased and installed in vehicles.

"Organized criminals are selling dangerous counterfeit and substandard airbags to consumers and suppliers with little to no regard to hazardous health and safety consequences," said ICE Director John Morton. "We will continue to aggressively investigate criminal supply chains with our law enforcement and private industry partners and bring these criminals to justice."

NHTSA is currently gathering information from automakers about their systems for verifying the authenticity of replacement parts and is working with the industry to make the driving public aware of the potential safety risk posed by counterfeit air bags. Moving forward, the agency will continue to monitor consumer complaints, police accident reports, and other sources for additional information.

## **CONSUMERS THAT SHOULD NOT BE AT RISK:**

Consumers who purchased their vehicle new and have not had their air bags replaced

Consumers who have full knowledge of the entire history of their used vehicle (including knowing whether the vehicle had been in a crash in the last three years and being certain that the air bag was replaced at a new car dealership)

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## CONSUMERS THAT MAY BE AT RISK AND SHOULD CONTACT THE CALL CENTER ESTABLISHED BY THEIR AUTO MANUFACTURER:

Consumers who have had air bags replaced within the past three years at a repair shop that is not part of a new car dealership

Comsumers who have purchased a used car that may have sustained an air bag deployment before their purchase

Consumers who own a car with a title branded salvage, rebuilt, or reconstructed

Consumers who have purchased replacement air bags from eBay or other non-certified sources—especially if they were purchased at unusually low prices (i.e. less than \$400)

## **VEHICLES FOR WHICH COUNTERFEIT AIR BAGS MAY BE AVAILABLE:**

As of today, NHTSA is aware of counterfeit air bags available for the following vehicle makes and models:

Make	Model Year(s)	Model(s)
Acura	2009-2011	TSX
Audi	2006-2009	A3, A4, A6, A8, Q5, Q7
BMW	2007-2011	X5, E70, E60, E61
	2008-2010	5-series, 528i, 535i
	2004-2007	5-Series, 525i, 530, 535, E60, E61
	2007-2011	E90, E91
	Not listed	E92, E93
	2007-2011	X5, E70
	2004-2007	525i, 530, 535
	2011-2012	X3
Buick	2010-2011	Lacrosse
Chevrolet	2011-2012	Cruze
	2006-2010	Aveo
	2011-2012	Volt
	2012	Camaro
Ford	2012	Focus
	2005-2009	Mustang

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Honda         2003-2012         Accord           2006-2011         Civic           2007-2011         Fix           2007-2011         Fix           2007-2011         Pilot           2007-2011         Insight           2009-2011         Crosstour           2007-2011         Crosstour           Pyundai         2007-2011         Elantra           Notistei         Genesis           Notistei         Sonata           Infiniti         2007-2011         Solu/Forte           Infiniti         2008-2011         Solu/Forte           Infini	Model	l Year(s)	Model(s)
		2003-2012	Accord
Process		2006-2011	Civic
Mazda         2009-2011         Pilot           Agada         2009-2011         Insight           Agada         2009-2011         Crosstour           Agada         2007-2011         Crosstour           Agada         2007-2011         Crosstour           Agada         Not listed         Genesis           Not listed         Oonata         Crosstour           Kia         2007-2011         GSS, EX35           Kia         2010-2011         Soul/Forte           Lexus         2010-2012         Roge Rover Evoque           Lexus         2003-2008         RX350           Agada         2003-2008         RX350           Mazda         2007-2009         RX350           Mazda         2009-2011         CGLK           Agada         2009-2011         CGLK		2002-2011	CRV
Management         2009-2011         Insight           Lyundai         2007-2011         Elantra           Myundai         2007-2011         Elantra           Infiniti         2007-2011         Genesis           Kia         2007-2011         Gonata           Land Rover         2010-2012         Soul/Forte           Lexus         2012-2012         Soul/Forte           Lexus         2004-2009         Spectra           Lexus         2006-2011         S250, IS350, IS-F           Lexus         2006-2011         S250, IS350, IS-F           Mazda         2007-2009         RX350           Mazda         2007-2009         RX350           Mercedes         2010-2011         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2011         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2011         CS SN, ESSO           2010-2011         SSSO, ESSO           2010-2012         Mazda 3           2010-2012         Mazda 3           2010-2013         SSSO, ESSO           2010-2014         SSSO, ESSO           2010-2012         Marticular Substitution         SSSO           2010-2012         Marticular Substitution         SSSO		2007-2011	Fit
2009-201         Crosstour           Hyundai         2007-2011         Elantra           Infiniti         2007-2011         Elantra           Kia         2007-2011         Gonsis           Kia         2007-2011         G35, EX35           Land Rover         2010-2011         Soul/Forte           Lexus         2012         Range Rover Evoque           Lexus         2006-2011         IS250, IS350, IS-F           Lexus         2007-2009         RX350           Mazda         2007-2009         RX350           Mazda         2009-2011         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2009-2011         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2009-2011         C, GLK           Mercedes         2009-2011         C, GLK           2009-2011         S550, E550           2009-2011         GL, ML           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Not listed         Outlander		2009-2011	Pilot
Hyundai         2017 2011         Identra           Hyundai         2007-2011         Elantra           Not listed         Genesis           Infiniti         2007-2011         G35, EX35           Kia         2010-2011         Soul/Forte           Land Rover         2012         Range Rover Evoque           Lexus         2006-2011         IS250, IS350, IS-F           Exus         2006-2011         S250, IS350, IS-F           Avail         2007-2009         RX350           Not listed         ES350           Mazda         2007-2001         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2011         C, GLK           2010-2011         E350, E550           2007-2008         SS50           2007-2008         SS50           2007-2008         ML           2006-2009         ML           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		2009-2011	Insight
Hyundai         2007-2011         Elantra           Not listed         Genesis           Infiniti         2007-2011         G35, EX35           Kia         2010-2011         Soul/Forte           Land Rover         2012         Range Rover Evoque           Lexus         2006-2011         IS250, IS350, IS-F           Lexus         2007-2002         RX470           Mazda         2007-2003         RX350           Mazda         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Marcedes         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Lexus         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Lexus         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Lexus         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Lexus         2010-2011         ES50, ES50           Lexus         2010-2012         Marcedes         SS50           Lexus         2007-2008         ML           Lexus         2009-2010         GL, ML           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		2009-2011	Crosstour
Not listed         Genesis           Infiniti         2007-2011         G35, EX35           Kia         2010-2011         Soul/Forte           Land Rover         2012         Range Rover Evoque           Lexus         2006-2011         IS250, IS350, IS-F           Lexus         2007-2002         RX350           Mazda         2007-2003         RX350           Mazda         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2012         C, GLK           2010-2013         C, GLK           2010-2014         S550           2007-2008         S550           2006-2009         ML           2009-2010         GL, ML           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		2011	Odyssey
Infiniti         Not listed         Sonata           Kia         2010-2011         505, EX35           Kia         2010-2011         50ul/Forte           Lond Rover         2012         Range Rover Evoque           Lexus         2006-2011         15250, 18350, 18-F           Lexus         2007-2002         6X470           Lond Rover         2007-2003         6X470           Lexus         2007-2003         RX350           Marcia         2007-2004         Mazda 3           Marcia         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2012         C, GLK           Mercedes         2010-2011         E350, E550           2007-2008         8550           2007-2008         ML           2008-2010         GL, ML           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		2007-2011	Elantra
Infiniti         2007-2011         G35, EX35           Kia         2010-2011         Soul/Forte           2004-2009         Spectra           Land Rover         2012         Range Rover Evoque           Lexus         2006-2011         IS250, IS350, IS-F           2003-2008         GX470           2007-2009         RX350           Not listed         ES350           Mazda         2004-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2009-2011         C, GLK           2010-2011         E350, E550           2007-2008         S550           2006-2009         ML           2009-2010         GL, MIL           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		Not listed	Genesis
Kia         2010-2011         Soul/Forte           2004-2009         Spectra           Land Rover         2012         Range Rover Evoque           Lexus         2006-2011         IS250, IS350, IS-F           2003-2008         GX470           2007-2009         RX350           Not listed         ES350           Mazda         2004         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2001-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2009-2011         C, GLK           2007-2008         S550           2007-2008         S550           2006-2009         ML           2009-2010         GL, ML           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		Not listed	Sonata
Land Rover         2004-2009         Spectra           Lexus         2006-2011         IS250, IS350, IS-F           2003-2008         GX470           2007-2009         RX350           Not listed         ES350           Mazda         2004         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2001-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2009-2011         C, GLK           2010-2011         E350, E550           2007-2008         S550           2007-2009         ML           2006-2009         ML           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		2007-2011	G35, EX35
Land Rover         2012         Range Rover Evoque           Lexus         2006-2011         IS250, IS350, IS-F           2003-2008         GX470           2007-2009         RX350           Not listed         ES350           Mazda         2004         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2009-2011         C, GLK           2010-2011         E350, E550           2007-2008         S550           2007-2008         S550           MIL         2009-2010           GL, ML           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		2010-2011	Soul/Forte
Lexus         2006-2011         IS250, IS350, IS-F           2003-2008         GX470           Mazda         2007-2009         RX350           Mercedes         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2011         C, GLK           2007-2008         S550           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		2004-2009	Spectra
Mazda   2003-2008   CS 470     Not listed   ES 350     Mazda   2004   Mazda 3     Mercedes   2009-2011   C, GLK     2010-2011   E350, E550     2007-2008   S550     2007-2008   S550     2007-2008   S550     2008-2009   ML     2009-2010   GL, ML     Mitsubishi   Not listed   Outlander     Nissan   1992-2002   Quest		2012	Range Rover Evoque
Mazda         2007-2009         RX350           Mazda         2004         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2009-2011         C, GLK           2010-2011         E350, E550           2007-2008         S550           2006-2009         ML           2009-2010         GL, ML           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		2006-2011	IS250, IS350, IS-F
Mazda         2004         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2010-2012         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2009-2011         C, GLK           2010-2011         E350, E550           2007-2008         S550           2006-2009         ML           2009-2010         GL, ML           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		2003-2008	GX470
Mazda         2004         Mazda 3           Mercedes         2009-2011         C, GLK           Mercedes         2010-2011         E350, E550           2007-2008         S550           2006-2009         ML           2009-2010         GL, ML           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		2007-2009	RX350
Mercedes   2010-2011   C, GLK   2007-2011   E350, E550   2007-2008   S550   S		Not listed	ES350
Mercedes         2009-2011         C, GLK           2010-2011         E350, E550           2007-2008         S550           2006-2009         ML           2009-2010         GL, ML           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		2004	Mazda 3
2010-2011 E350, E550   2007-2008 S550   2006-2009 ML   2009-2010 GL, ML		2010-2012	Mazda 3
2007-2008   S550     2006-2009   ML     2009-2010   GL, ML   Mitsubishi   Not listed   Outlander   Nissan   1992-2002   Quest		2009-2011	C, GLK
2006-2009         ML           2009-2010         GL, ML           Mitsubishi         Not listed         Outlander           Nissan         1992-2002         Quest		2010-2011	E350, E550
2009-2010GL, MLMitsubishiNot listedOutlanderNissan1992-2002Quest		2007-2008	S550
MitsubishiNot listedOutlanderNissan1992-2002Quest		2006-2009	ML
Nissan 1992-2002 Quest		2009-2010	GL, ML
		Not listed	Outlander
2010-2011 Ouest		1992-2002	Quest
TOTAL TOTAL YEARTH		2010-2011	Quest
2009-2011 Cube		2009-2011	Cube

Make	Model Year(s)	Model(s)
	2007-2011	Versa
	2009-2010	Murano
	Not listed	Altima
Subaru	2008-2009	Forester
	2008-2009	Imprezza
	2008-2009	Outback
	2010-2011	Legacy
Suzuki	2007-2010	SX4
Toyota	2002-2006	Camry
	2012	Camry
	2009-2011	Corolla, Matrix
	2007-2011	Yaris
	2004-2011	Highlander
	2004-2011	Sienna
	2004-2011	Tacoma
	2010-2012	Prius
	2003-2006	Tundra
	2007-2011	Tundra
	2003-2006	Sequoia
	2003-2010	Land Cruiser
	2004-2007	Highlander
	2008-2010	Highlander
	2004-2009	4Runner
	2007-2009	Solara
	2005-2011	RAV4
Volkswagen	2006-2010	Jetta
Volvo	Not listed	XC60, XC70
	Not listed	V70, S60, S80

Click here to see NHTSA's recommended dealer guidance for managing counterfeit air bags.

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, West Building, Washington, DC 20590 USA 1-888-327-4236 TTY:1-800-424-9153



