

**BMW**



## **IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL**

**This notice applies to your vehicle, TESTVIN**

**October 2014**

### **Recall Campaign No. 14V-176: VANOS Assembly Bolts**

Dear BMW Owner/Lessee:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

BMW AG has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain Model Year 2010-12 BMW 1 Series, 3 Series, 5 Series, 5 Series Gran Turismo, 6 Series, X3 SAV, X5 SAV, X6 SAV and Z4 models. Our records indicate that you are the owner or lessee of an affected vehicle.



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### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Please note that we had informed you of this matter by letter in June, and indicated that the necessary parts for your vehicle were not yet available. In our June letter, we stated that we would inform you when parts were available, and to schedule a visit with your authorized BMW center at that time. With this letter, we are pleased to inform you that the necessary parts are now available, and we encourage you to schedule an appointment with your authorized BMW center as soon as possible.

**Company**  
BMW of North America, LLC

BMW Group Company

**Mailing Address**  
PO Box 1227  
Westwood, NJ  
07675-1227

**Telephone**  
(800) 525-7417

**Fax**  
(201) 930-8362

**E-mail**  
CustomerRelations@  
bmwusa.com

**Website**  
bmwusa.com

### **DESCRIPTION OF PROBLEM**

This recall involves the housing bolts of the variable camshaft timing (VANOS) adjustment unit. The bolts may possibly loosen over time and, under certain circumstances, may break. As a result, the reduced engine power "safe mode" may be activated. In some cases the engine cannot be started after switching off and less frequently the engine could stall which could lead to a crash.

### **PRECAUTIONS FOR YOUR SAFETY**

- 1. CONTACT YOUR AUTHORIZED BMW CENTER IMMEDIATELY TO HAVE THE NECESSARY REPAIR PERFORMED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**
- 2. If you notice a distinct change in engine running condition and hear increased engine noise, the vehicle may be experiencing this condition. If this occurs, you should immediately contact the nearest authorized BMW center to arrange for inspection and service.**



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3. If you notice a Check Engine (or Service Engine Soon) warning light and a Check Control message that the reduced engine power “safe mode” is activated either immediately or at startup of the next driving cycle, the vehicle may be experiencing this condition. If this occurs, you should immediately contact the nearest authorized BMW center to arrange for inspection and service.
4. If the engine stalls, you should carefully move away from traffic and pull over to a safe location as soon as possible and stop the vehicle. You should contact BMW Roadside Assistance at 1-800-332-4269 to have your vehicle brought to the nearest authorized BMW center. You should not continue to drive the vehicle.
5. If you are not the only driver of this vehicle, please advise all other drivers and passengers of this important information.

### **DESCRIPTION OF REPAIR**

The VANOS attachment bolts will be replaced. The actual repair will require approximately four hours; however, additional time may be required depending on the BMW center’s schedule. This work will be performed free of charge by your authorized BMW center.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

**Should you need BMW Roadside Assistance, they can be contacted at 1-800-332-4269.**

If you are no longer the owner of this vehicle, we would appreciate your furnishing us with the name and address of the new owner, using the enclosed postage-paid card. If you are the lessor of this vehicle, Federal Regulations require you to forward this notice to your lessee within ten days. If you have already had this repair performed at your own expense, please see the attachment regarding possible eligibility for reimbursement.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this issue may cause you. We appreciate your confidence in our product, and we wish to do everything we can to retain it. **Should you have any questions about this recall, please contact your authorized BMW center.** Should you need additional assistance, you may contact BMW Customer Relations and Services at 1-800-525-7417, or via Email at CustomerRelations@bmwusa.com.

If your BMW center is unable to remedy the defect without charge or within a reasonable period of time, you may notify the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E., Washington, DC 20590, call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153), or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

BMW recommends that you always wear your safety belt, and that all passengers are properly seated and restrained at all times.

BMW OF NORTH AMERICA, LLC

**TREAD ACT CUSTOMER REIMBURSEMENT PLAN**  
**(BMW of North America, LLC)**

If you have paid for the repair described in the attached letter, and you would like your payment to be considered for reimbursement, please contact your authorized BMW center. Expenses from repair facilities outside of the BMW center network will be considered; however, the repair procedure must meet BMW standards.

Your authorized BMW center will request a copy of your owner notification letter, as well as, a copy of your previously paid invoice, and then inspect the vehicle (if it is still in your possession) prior to submitting a claim on your behalf to BMW of North America, LLC for reimbursement.

Please note the following:

- Only a repair that is the subject of this safety recall is reimbursable. Consequential expenses such as towing, rental, accommodations, damage repairs, etc will not be reimbursed.
- The Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) for BMW Genuine Parts will be considered as the guideline for reasonable charges.
- Expenses for repairs performed more than 10 days after the date of the last owner notification letter sent by BMW are not eligible for reimbursement.
- Taxes and hazardous waste disposal, where previously paid, are eligible for reimbursement.

We anticipate that your authorized BMW center will be able to answer any questions that you may have regarding your qualifications for reimbursement of a previous repair. If you qualify for such a reimbursement, they will also be able to advise you of the manner in which you could receive reimbursement.

We recommend that your authorized BMW center be your primary contact on this issue; however, our Customer Relations and Services Department may be contacted at 1-800-831-1117 for any special assistance that you may require.

Alternatively, you may submit your request for reimbursement to the following address:

Customer Relations and Services Department  
BMW of North America, LLC  
P.O. Box 1227  
Westwood, NJ 07675-1227

Please note, if you choose to submit a request for reimbursement to the Customer Relations and Services department, your vehicle will still need to be inspected (if it is still in your possession) at an authorized BMW center before a claim can be submitted for consideration. This is to ensure that prior repairs associated with this recall completed at an outside facility meet BMW standards.