U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report 26V698

Manufacturer Name: Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.
Submission Date: Oct 21, 2026
NHTSA Recall No.: 26V698
Manufacturer Recall No.: 93SK

Manufacturer Information

Manufacturer Name: Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Address: 3800 Hamlin Road
Auburn Hills MI, 48326

Population

Total number of potentially involved: 9,048

Estimated percentage with defect: 0.1%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2024-2025 AUDI Q4 SPORTBACK E-TRON

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type:

Fuel / Propulsion: Electric Battery Power

Production Dates: Nov 30, 2023 - Apr 22, 2025

Number of potentially involved: 2,008

Descriptive Information:

The recall population was determined by reviewing vehicle assembly records, high-voltage battery traceability information, supplier production records, and available vehicle charging data.

The recalled products differ from products that were not included in the recall because the recalled products differ from products that were not included in the recall because the recalled vehicles contain high-voltage battery cells from the identified suspect production population. Vehicles outside the recall population do not contain battery cells from this identified population.

Vehicle 2: 2024-2025 AUDI Q4 E-TRON

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type:

Fuel / Propulsion: Electric Battery Power

Production Dates: Dec 04, 2023 - Apr 24, 2025

Number of potentially involved: 7,040

Descriptive Information:

The recall population was determined by reviewing vehicle assembly records, high-voltage battery traceability information, supplier production records, and available vehicle charging data.

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The recalled products differ from products that were not included in the recall because the recalled products differ from products that were not included in the recall because the recalled vehicles contain high-voltage battery cells from the identified suspect production population. Vehicles outside the recall population do not contain battery cells from this identified population.

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

The root cause is presently unknown and remains under investigation, although certain high voltage batteries within the affected vehicle population may not meet the required quality standards. As a result, a state of charge above 80% may trigger thermal propagation within the high-voltage battery.

FMVSS1:

FMVSS2:

Description of the safety risk, including crash, fire, death, injury:

If thermal propagation occurs, it may result in a vehicle fire.

Description of the cause:

While the root cause has not yet been conclusively determined and remains under investigation, current findings indicate potential manufacturing deviations in the high-voltage batteries of the affected vehicle population.

Identification of any warning that can occur:

A technical defect may not be immediately detectable.

Component Manufacturer

Tier of Supplier:

Supplier Type:

Name: SK Battery Manufacturing Kft.

Address: Irinyi János utca 9
Komárom Foreign States, 2903

Country: Hungary

Involved Components

Component Name 1: High Voltage Battery Module

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Component Description: High Voltage Battery

Component Part Number: 0Z1.915.599.*

Chronology

September 21, 2026: The Audi Product Safety Committee was informed of high-voltage battery thermal events involving certain Volkswagen Group vehicles equipped with the same type of high-voltage batteries installed in certain Audi Q4 e-tron vehicles. It was observed that in certain high-voltage batteries, certain charging profiles combined with a state of charge over 80% may result in thermal propagation within the high-voltage battery. Audi was not aware of any corresponding field cases involving Audi vehicles. The Committee requested additional information regarding the potentially affected Audi vehicle population, relevant battery and module production data, as well as production measures and a potential clean date from the battery cell supplier. Further technical analysis was initiated.

September 21 - October 14, 2026: Audi conducted an in-depth assessment of the issue, including identification of the potentially affected vehicle population, evaluation of available technical data, field information, production information, and potential field measures. In addition, battery design characteristics, production records applicable to the Audi Q4 e-tron, available statistical data, and diagnostic information were reviewed. Audi also evaluated information regarding the thermal events observed in other Volkswagen Group vehicles equipped with the same battery type.

October 14, 2026: The Audi Product Safety Committee reviewed all available information. The assessment confirmed that the relevant battery and production characteristics identified in the affected Volkswagen Group vehicles were also present in a defined population of Audi Q4 e-tron vehicles, the majority of which had been produced for the North American market. Although Audi remained unaware of any corresponding field cases involving Audi vehicles and the root cause of the thermal events observed in other Volkswagen Group vehicles had not yet been conclusively determined, the Audi Product Safety Committee decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall of the affected vehicles out of an abundance of caution.

Audi is not aware of any claims, crashes, fires, injuries or deaths associated with this defect.

Related NHTSA Recall Number:

Description of Remedy

Remedy Type:

Consumer Advisories: ☐ Do Not Drive ☐ Park Outside

Description of remedy program:

The battery diagnostic data available for the affected vehicles has been evaluated. Vehicles whose battery data does not indicate a need for further assessment do not require any interim measures at this time. If battery data is currently unavailable, or the available battery data indicates that further assessment is required, owners will be advised to limit charging to 80%, and the vehicle will undergo an additional battery diagnostic check at an authorized Audi dealer. Depending on the results, further measures may be required and the temporary maximum state-of-charge limitation of 80% will remain in

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place until the final remedy becomes available, or alternatively, customers will be advised that the charging limitation may be removed. Audi is currently developing the final remedy and will provide further information once it is available.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

The root cause has not yet been conclusively determined, and the final remedy remains under development. For vehicles requiring a workshop visit, a temporary maximum state-of-charge limitation of 80% applies as an interim measure. Depending on the results of the high-voltage battery assessment, this limitation may subsequently be removed.

Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:

Vehicles produced through June 2025 are included in the recall.

Reimbursement Plan

Recall Schedule

Description of recall schedule:

Planned Dealer Notification Begin Date: On or before October 23, 2026
Planned Dealer Notification End Date: On or before October 23, 2026
Planned INTERIM Owner Notification Begin Date: On or before December 18, 2026
Planned INTERIM Owner Notification End Date: On or before December 18, 2026
Planned REMEDY AVAILABLE Owner Notification Begin Date: TBD
Planned REMEDY AVAILABLE Owner Notification End Date: TBD

Planned Dealer Notification Date: Oct 23, 2026 - Oct 23, 2026 ☐ No Dealers

Planned Interim Owner Notification Date: Dec 18, 2026 - Dec 18, 2026 ☐ No Owners

Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date: ☐ Phased Recall

Date when VIN will be searchable: Oct 23, 2026