

Part 573 Defect Information Report**December 21, 2011**1. Vehicle Manufacturer/Importer:

Fisker Automotive, Inc.
5515 East La Palma Avenue
Anaheim, CA 92807

Manufacturer of Affected Component:

A123 Systems, Inc.
200 West Street
Waltham, MA 02451

Contact: Alex Greene, Director of Product Quality (734-772-0372)

2. Identification of Potentially Affected Vehicles

Model Year 2012 Fisker Karma vehicles manufactured from July 1, 2011 through November 3, 2011

3. Number of Vehicles Potentially Affected

Approximately 239 U.S. vehicles are potentially affected, of which less than 40 are believed to have been delivered to consumers (with the remaining vehicles still in dealer inventory).

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect

Unknown, but Fisker will perform the remedy on all vehicles covered by this notice.

5. Description of Defect

Within the high-voltage battery, certain hose clamps may have been positioned incorrectly during the battery supplier's assembly process. If positioned incorrectly, the battery compartment cover could interfere with the hose clamps, potentially causing a weakening of clamping force around the hoses, leading to a coolant leak from the cooling hoses. If coolant enters the battery compartment, an electrical short could possibly occur, causing a thermal event within the battery including a possible fire in the worse case.

To date, Fisker has not received any complaints, warranty claims or any other reports related to this condition, but Fisker is taking this action out of an abundance of caution.

6. Chronology of Principal Events

- December 16, 2011: Valmet notified Fisker engineering of two vehicles with coolant drip leak visible underneath the high-voltage battery pack at the lowest point. Incidents were captured during the final stage of assembly, during fluid fill. Investigation launched to determine leak source.
- December 17, 2011: Additional one vehicle confirmed with coolant drip leak at the final stage of production.
- High-voltage battery pack on one vehicle opened for internal inspection with representatives from Valmet supplier quality, Fisker engineering, and A123 field service. Visual inspection determined bent spring hose clamps inside the high-voltage battery. The hose clamps were found to be incorrectly positioned.
- December 18, 2011: Second suspect battery pack was opened for internal inspection. The inspection confirmed the same root cause as previous pack.
- December 19-20, 2011: Initial meeting with A123 and Fisker to discuss potential consequences of this condition, and to develop a containment plan and inspection procedures.
- December 21, 2011: Follow-up meeting to review final containment plan with executive members. Based upon a review of production records and technical information, Fisker management decided to conduct a safety recall.
- As noted previously, there have been no claims, complaints or reports of any kind related to this issue.

7. Description of Remedy

The dealer will replace the high-voltage battery with a new part. The remedy will ensure the spring hose clamps are properly sealing the hoses to prevent the potential for coolant leakage.

8. Reimbursement Program

All of the subject vehicles are within the Fisker Limited New Vehicle Warranty period. Accordingly, pursuant to 49 C.F.R. 577.11(e), Fisker requests that it be exempt from the pre-notification remedy reimbursement requirements.

9. Dealer and Owner Notification

Dealer notification will occur on or about December 23, 2011. Representative copies of dealer communications will be provided to the agency within five business days after they are issued.

A draft Part 577 Owner Letter will be submitted shortly. Fisker is prepared to commence owner notification immediately upon agency approval.

10. Fisker's campaign number for this recall is: "51611001"