

**15 BUMPER BEAM PLUG FOR BAJA TRAILER HITCH**

Before installing the trailer hitch on the Baja, please ensure that the silicone plugs are taken out of the weld nut on the bumper beam (see Fig. 1).



Fig. 1

The bumper beam plugs are installed at the factory to prevent the inside on the threads from being painted (see Fig. 2 and 3).

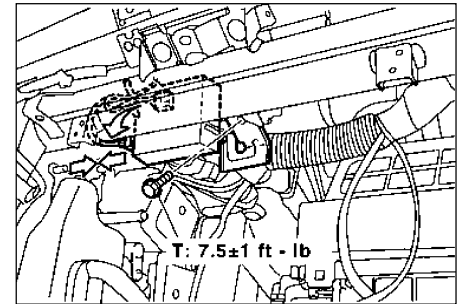


Fig. 2

*continued on pg 2*

**15 STI SECURITY MODULE TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS**

This article is to reinforce the importance of the specific torque specifications for the 2004 STi security system module. The security module is mounted behind the glove box and servicing it requires the removal and reinstallation of one passenger side air bag bolt (see pictures).



Please ensure that the air bag/security

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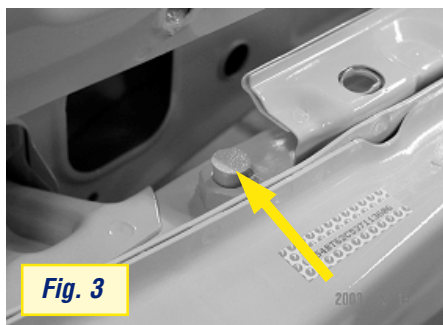
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**CAUTION: VEHICLE SERVICING PERFORMED BY UNTRAINED PERSONS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY TO THOSE PERSONS OR TO OTHERS.**  
 Subaru Technical Support T.I.P.S. are intended for use by professional technicians ONLY. They are written to inform those technicians of conditions that may occur in some vehicles, or to provide information that could assist in the proper servicing of the vehicle. Properly trained technicians have the equipment, tools, safety instructions, and knowhow to do the job correctly and safely. If a condition is described, DO NOT assume that this Technical Support T.I.P.S. applies to your vehicle, or that your vehicle will have that condition. Impreza, Legacy, Justy, Loyale, Outback, Forester, Subaru SVX, WRX, L.L. Bean, Baja, "Quality Driven" and "Driven By What's Inside" are Registered Trademarks.

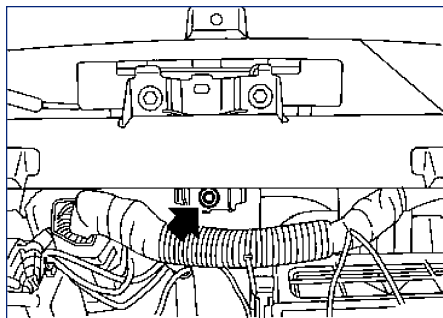
## **BUMPER BEAM PLUG...** *continued from pg 1*



If the bumper plugs are not removed, this may cause difficulty in properly installing the trailer hitch bolt. It may be a good idea, when initially threading the bolt into the bumper beam weld nut, to start it by hand. This will avoid cross-threading the bolt. For proper installation instructions, please download the information from <http://www.subarunet.com>

## **STI SECURITY MODULE...** *continued from pg 1*

system module bolt is torqued to 7.5 ± 1 ft. lbs (torque specification of the bolt is normally 5.4 ft. lbs.). For detailed installation guidelines, please refer to the installation guide supplied in kit # H7110SS200 or download the information from: <http://www.subarunet.com/fixe d operations/accessories>.



## **01 MODIFICATION TO VEHICLES**

A modification is defined as ANY unauthorized component or alteration to the vehicle that is not designed or tested for manufacturer specification. This is including but not limited to air filters (such as K&N or anything other than OEM), aftermarket ECMs, oil filters and spark plugs.

If the vehicle has been modified and you feel the condition is caused by the modification, it is the **customer's responsibility** to return the vehicle to its original condition. Before the repair starts, please advise the customer to return the vehicle to manufacturer specifications. If the vehicle arrives and there are any signs of previous modification, it is imperative that you notify the techline support representative. If they do not know that the vehicle is or has been modified, their suggestion to repair the vehicle may lead you in the wrong direction (TIME IS MONEY). Failures caused by modifications to are not a matter for warranty.

## **11 CONTROL UNIT REFLASHING INFORMATION**

Be advised that there is now information available on the <http://www.subarunet.com> website listing what reprogramming capabilities are available.

To access this information, go to the above website (you'll need to know your dealer's password to get in), scroll down the left side of the screen to '**Service**' and then select '**Control Unit Reprogramming**' from the dropdown box.

This will open and allow you access to tables that will list reprogramming availability.

Obviously, we suggest you make copies of this so you have ready access to it and check the site often for updates.

If it is necessary to send the ECM in for reprogramming, please make use of the ECM Reprogramming fax form that you can find on the same site through Service Publications, TechTIPS, Sept/Oct 2002.

**02****CAMBELT TENSIONER REPLACEMENT**

We are seeing a large number of cambelt tensioners being replaced during other repairs (eg. crankshaft seals, camshaft seals, water pumps...) because there is a small amount of oil in the rod seal area.

Be advised that a **slight trace of oil in this area is normal.**

This information can be found in the applicable service manual for the vehicle being worked on.

Example: 2002 Legacy & Outback Service Manual Book 2, Section ME, Page ME-50, top of left hand column.

**CAUTION: Slight traces of oil at rod's oil seal do not indicate a problem.**

**01****ELECTRONIC QMR**

By now, you should all know that Quality Monitoring Reports must be entered on-line through the Service Menu on [subarunet.com](http://subarunet.com). The on-line Quality Advice Form has been discontinued.

**Paper copies of QMRs, Electrical Condition Reports (ECR), and Quality Advice Forms will no longer be accepted. Please discard all unused paper forms.**

Switching to electronic QMR submission was done to facilitate compliance with the TREAD Act Early Warning Report regulations that require Subaru to submit information on dealer field reports.

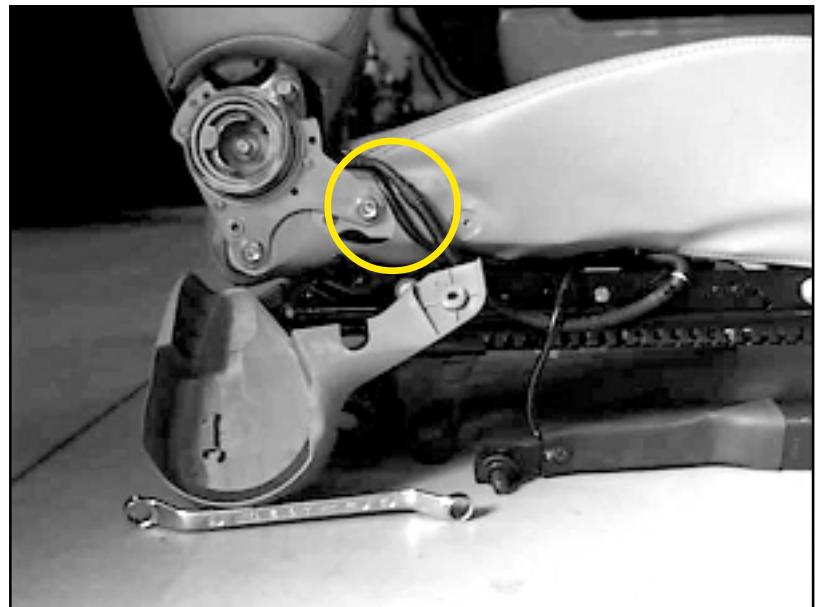
**17****2003 FORESTER SRS CODES 41 OR 42**

If you encounter a 2003MY Forester with any of the above codes, please inspect the area shown below in the accompanying photo.

The Technical Support Line has received a few calls where the wiring harness has been pinched/cut when the seat trim cover has been installed.

The area to inspect is on the outboard side of the seat on either the driver's side (code 42) or passenger's side (code 41).

If no damage is seen in this area of the harness, please inspect the total length of the harness to ensure that it isn't damaged where it runs under the seat near the seat track.



The Technical Helpline has received some calls on vehicles equipped with the Automatic Climate Control system with the concern of the heater blowing cold air.

If you get such a concern, make certain the system's aspirator tube is properly connected and if so, also make sure it's not kinked or restricted by a harness or something else.

The vehicle's aspirator tube tells the system what the cabin temperature is.

Without this input, it cannot adjust the system properly to maintain the correct temperature.

Also, be aware that this can cause the a/c system to not cool properly as well in warmer temperatures.

This tube should be inspected anytime you have a poor heating/cooling concern on these vehicles.

The procedure for testing can be found in the applicable service manual for the vehicle you are working on.

**2003 CALENDAR OF  
SUBARU HOLIDAYS****New Year's Day**

Wednesday, January 1, 2003

**Presidents' Day**

Monday, February 17, 2003

**Memorial Day**

Monday, May 26, 2003

**Independence Day**

Friday, July 4, 2003

**Labor Day**

Monday, September 1, 2003

**Thanksgiving**

Thursday, November 27, 2003

Friday, November 28, 2003

**Christmas**

Thursday, December 25, 2003

Friday, December 26, 2003

**New Year's Day**

Thursday, January 1, 2004

**"TechTIPS" INPUT & SUGGESTIONS**

This is **your** chance to offer suggestions for use in future issues of *TechTIPS!*

**MODEL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YEAR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VIN:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Description of situation encountered:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Your suggestion for repair procedure, product improvements, etc.:**

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Please attach separate sheets, if necessary. You may also want to include Service Manual diagrams or references, or your own drawings to assist in describing your suggestion. All information submitted becomes the property of Subaru of America, Inc. Permission is granted to Subaru of America, Inc. to print your name and suggestions in T.I.P.S. and other Subaru of America, Inc. publications. Mail items to: PO Box 6000, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-6000.

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dealer's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dealer Code:** \_\_\_\_\_