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**2004 DIRECT AT CONTROL VALVE BODY ASSEMBLY COLLECTION (2004 BAJA TURBO AND FORESTER TURBO)**

As part of Subaru's ongoing quality assurance activities, Subaru Service would like to collect a sample of 2004 Direct Automatic Transmission (DAT) Control Valve Body Assemblies suspected of improper operation. Therefore, should you encounter such a condition, please contact the Subaru Technical Support Line at 1-800-762-8324 and a valve body will be sent to you at no charge. Please return the original valve body to:

**Subaru of America, Inc. West Gate  
5000 State Road 38 East  
Lafayette, IN 47905**

Please remember to perform the DAT recalibration process whenever performing this operation. Any subsequent warranty claim should be submitted as labor only utilizing the applicable failure code.

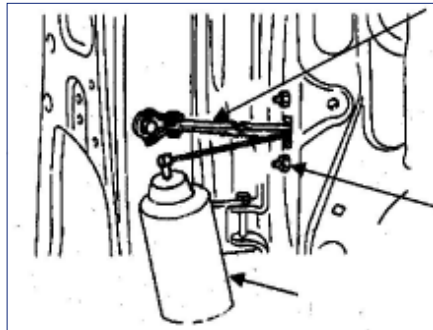
Thank you for your assistance in this quality initiative.

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**CREAKING NOISE FROM DOOR CHECKER**

There is a reported "creaking noise" when opening or closing some vehicle doors. This noise has been attributed to the door checker. Applicable models for this customer issue are 2003-04MY Legacy, Forester, and Impreza vehicles.

The following procedures address the creaking noise from the door checker and details an approved repair.



**Repair Procedures**

1. Open the door fully, and loosen the two (2) nuts 1/3 to 1/2 turn where the door checker attaches to the door.
  2. Push the door open as far as it will go.
  3. Retighten the 2 nuts. Tightening torque is 5.5 Ft Lbs.
- If creaking noise is still audible, please proceed to the next step.*
4. Apply spray grease (White Lithium Grease) to the door checker as shown in the drawing.
  5. Open and close the door several times, working the grease into the effected area.



**BACK TO SCHOOL, KIDDIES!**

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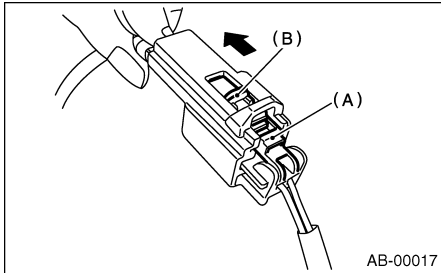


**CAUTION: VEHICLE SERVICING PERFORMED BY UNTRAINED PERSONS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY TO THOSE PERSONS OR TO OTHERS.**

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.

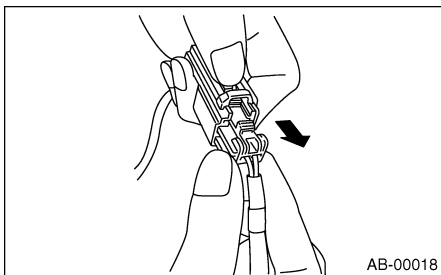
## 17 AIRBAG CONNECTORS

Recently, here at the Tech Line, we have been receiving calls where technicians have mentioned the difficulty they are having getting air bag connectors apart for the side airbag on some vehicles. In particular, this information applies to 2003-04MY Forester left-side airbag (steering wheel), roll connector, side-airbag and pre-tensioner.

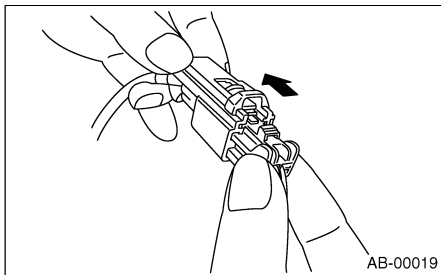


To Disconnect:

- (1) Press tab (A) and hold.
- (2) While holding (A) depressed, pull back green slide lock (B) FULLY.
- (3) While still holding green slide lock (B), release tab (A)



- (4) Now (grasping the connector body - **not** the wire) separate the connector.
- (5) If the connector does not come apart easily, most likely the green slide lock (B) is not pulled back fully. Do not force the connectors apart! Start over at step (1).



To Reconnect:

- (1) Carefully push the connector together till a distinct “click” is heard.
- (2) Gently pull on connector body to insure it is locked.

This information is also available on page AB-23, of Section 6, in the 2003MY Forester SERVICE MANUAL.

## 11 ROUGH IDLE/CHECK ENGINE LIGHT AFTER BATTERY DISCONNECT

**APPLICATION: 2001MY up to and including the 2003MY Legacy and Baja. The rough idle condition only affects 4 cylinder, non-turbo vehicles. This condition is likely to apply to 2004MY vehicles as well.**

Please be aware that a rough engine idle condition may occur when the vehicle’s battery is disconnected for less than 30 minutes. Clearing the memory with the Select Monitor will correct this condition. If the battery is left disconnected for more than 30 minutes, the ECU will most likely clear itself.

Please feel free to share this information with your customers who perform their own service work or those who may have a need to disconnect their vehicle’s battery such as during certain accessory installations.

## 03 ON THE CAR REAR WHEEL BEARING REPLACEMENT PROCEDURE

Be advised that the on-car **rear** wheel bearing replacement procedure has application to the 2002-04 Impreza WRX (**excluding** the STi model) using special tool **J-45697**. A revised Service Bulletin 03-50-02 will be published in Subarunet in the near future. Replacement of rear wheel bearings on WRX (excluding STi) will require use of the on-car repair procedure effective immediately.

**09****2004MY LEGACY FUEL FILTER REPLACEMENT**

We realize this is common sense but, thought we'd mention it anyway.

While reviewing the 2004MY Legacy Service Manual, Section 1, page **PM-18** we found this information:

**9. Fuel Filter****A: Replacement****B: Installation**

The installation steps contained in the manual **do not** indicate that you must **install a new filter** and **reconnect the ground cable**. Please be sure that you do both of these steps.

**15****WRX PERFORMANCE SUSPENSION KIT (STi)**

Be advised that the WRX Performance Suspension Kit as shown in the Genuine Subaru Performance Parts brochure (MSA6M0302) does NOT have application to the 2004MY WRX.

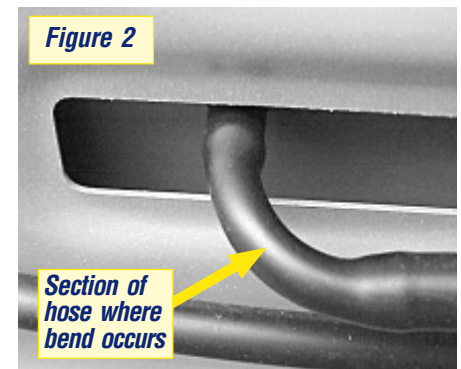
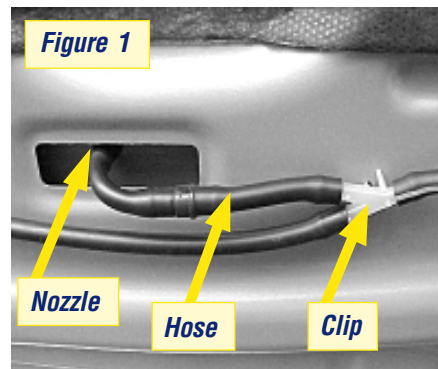
A kit is being developed for the 2004MY but, as of this date, there is no targeted release date. Please see that the people who need to know this are informed so there will be no problems from a misapplication standpoint.

**12****2003MY FORESTER WASHER NOZZLES**

In the event that you encounter poor discharge from the Left Front Windshield Washer, replacement of the washer hose between the nozzle and clip may be necessary (See Figure 1). The hose could be bent near the nozzle. See Figure 2 for the suspect area. Prior to replacing this part, be sure to inspect the LF washer nozzle for obstruction and all other related components for proper operation.

Suggested repair procedures are as follows:

- 1) Replace "Hose LH" between nozzle and clip with new one (part # 86659SA010)
- 2) Please pay special attention not to twist the hose when installing it. A ribbed hose is provided to prevent twisting the hose
- 3) Test the system for proper operation of windshield washer components.

**15****BAJA SPORT ACTIVITY LIGHTS**

Sport activity lights will only operate when the parking brake is engaged. Push the "SPORT LIGHTS" switch to turn the sport activity lights on. Press the switch again to turn them off.

The indicator light located on the switch will illuminate when the sport activity lights are on.

**Notes:**

*In most states, the sport activity lights must have stone shields installed when the vehicle is operated on public roads.*

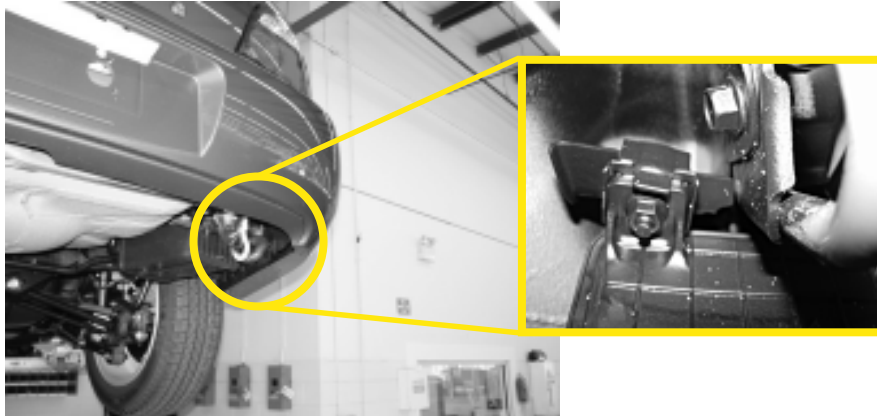
*In most states, the sport activity lights may not be operated when the vehicle is in motion on a public road.*

For more detailed information on installation and mounting of the Sport Activity Lights you may reference section 6-29 of the 2003 Baja Owner's Manual or [www.subarunet.com](http://www.subarunet.com).

**11** **EVAPORATIVE CANISTER RATTLE NOISE IN 04MY IMPREZA**

If you encounter a rattle noise while driving or when closing the rear doors of a 2004 Impreza, check that the Evaporative Canister Bracket is not rubbing on the right rear Tie Down Hook.

If you do encounter this condition, push or bend the Canister Bracket slightly to the left allowing enough clearance for the two parts not to rub together. This can be done by hand in most cases.



**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.:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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