

Counterfeit Airbags

The Risk and Response

Mark Francis, BC Provincial Vehicle Reg &
Licensing, June 25, 2013



Business Flames & Shrapnel: Feds Issue Warning on Existence of Dangerous Counterfeit Airbags

- Oct. 10, 2012 5:15pm [Becket Adams](#) WASHINGTON (TheBlaze/AP) — Thousands of motorists may be driving cars and trucks installed with dangerous counterfeit bags and they should have them replaced at their own expense, the Obama administration warned Wednesday.
- Most at risk are motorists who have had their airbags replaced over the past three years by a repair shop other than a new car dealership, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) officials said.
- Only 0.1 percent of the U.S. vehicle fleet — about 250,000 cars on the road — are makes and models for which counterfeit airbags are known to be available, NHTSA said. Auto industry officials briefed by the agency said they were told that tens of thousands of car owners may be driving vehicles with counterfeit airbags.
- In government tests last month of 11 counterfeit bags, 10 didn't inflate or failed to inflate properly. In one test, a counterfeit bag shot flames and shards of metal shrapnel at a crash dummy instead of inflating, said NHTSA Administrator David Strickland, who showed a video of the test at a news conference.



Level Setting:

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zunqSzAxeYc&feature=player_embedded#at=31

What's happened since?

- NHTSA consumer warning/advice
- Jan 2013 Transport Canada enlists Cdn jurisdictions
- April 4/13
 - US DoT Authorization letter allowing permit to transport
 - Arrest of Washington man for trafficking counterfeit air bags

BC's Experience

- Request from Transport Canada to assist
- 10 businesses/individuals who may have purchased
- Working with partners – a coordinated response

BC's Experience cont'd

- Identify vehicles and remove air bags
- Notices to individuals who don't respond
- CCMTA shared strategy



Discussion/Questions?