

ATTENTION:GENERAL MANAGER ☐
CLAIMS PERSONNEL ☐PARTS MANAGER ☐
SERVICE MANAGER ☐

IMPORTANT - All Service Personnel Should Read and Initial

SUBARU **WARRANTY BULLETIN**

APPLICABILITY: Impreza STi
SUBJECT: Axle Shaft Breakage and/or Damage
from Abuse

NUMBER: 01-159-05
DATE: 01-18-05

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this bulletin is to reinforce Subaru of America's (SOA) position regarding repairs to Subaru vehicles necessitated by racing or abusive driving habits. Axles can be damaged or broken from excessive torque transferred during acceleration from a complete stop (dumping the clutch) at high revolutions per minute (rpm) which puts an extreme load on the axles. Any damage that results from racing or abusive driving is not covered under the vehicle warranty.

The following will assist with identifying axles that have failed as the result of abuse:

If an extreme load is placed on rear axle shafts, one side could break and the opposite end could twist, both sides could twist or both sides could break. To inspect for a twisted axle shaft, inspect the crimp location on the axle boot bands. They should be aligned in a longitudinal direction as illustrated by the red dots (*see Figure 1*). However, this may not be necessarily true if the axle boots and/or bands have been replaced previously. It is recommended that you check prior repair history before concluding that misalignment is evidence of abuse. The example shows that the "Bell Joint" (BJ) side and the "Double Offset Joint" (DOJ) side are twisted. The bands on the BJ, A & B, should be aligned with each other. The bands on the DOJ, C & D, should be aligned with each other. However, the bands on the BJ do not necessarily have to be inline with the bands on the DOJ.

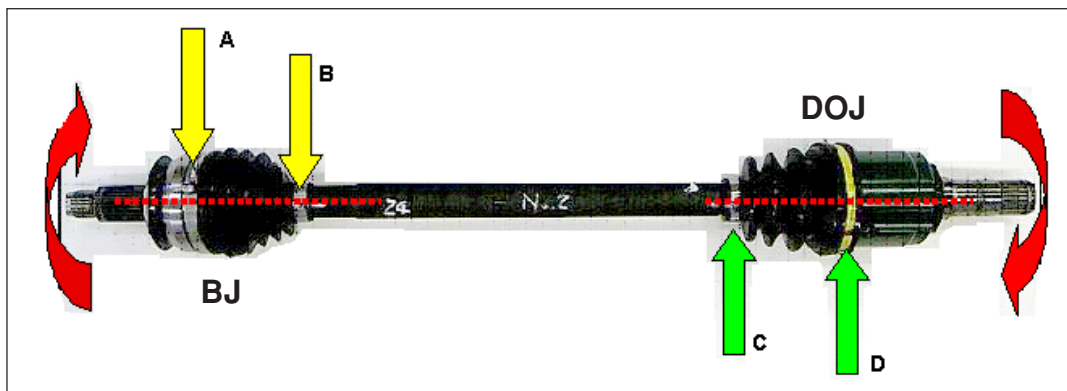


Figure 1



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

Subaru Service Bulletins 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 know-how to do the job correctly and safely. If a condition is described, DO NOT assume that this Service Bulletin applies to your vehicle, or that your vehicle will have that condition.



BJ (wheel side) axle was twisted; A & B are not aligned (see *Figure 2*).

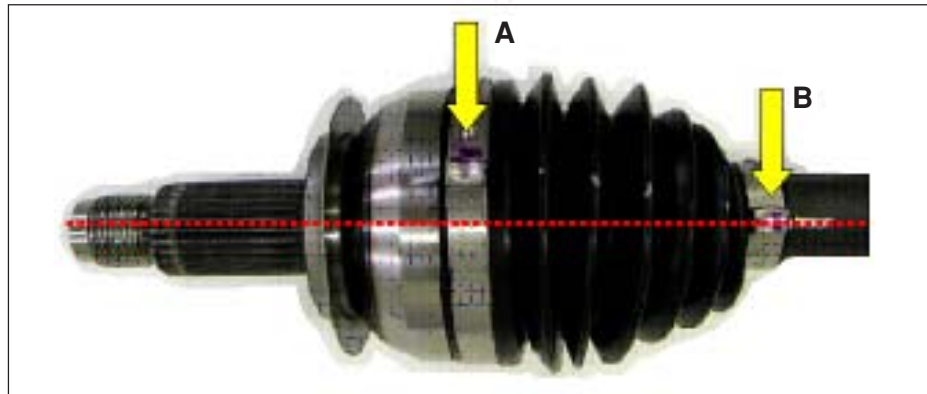


Figure 2

DOJ (rear differential side) axle was twisted; C & D are not aligned (see *Figure 3*).

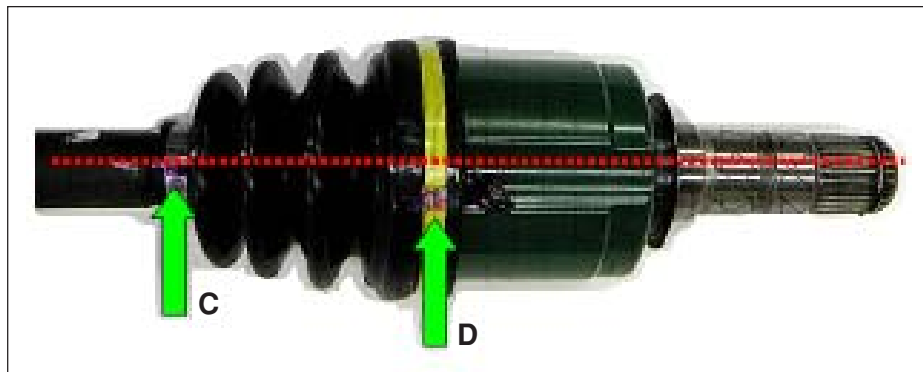


Figure 3

The following 3 photos (*Figures 4, 5, and 6*) show an axle shaft that was sheared off at the “Bell Joint” (BJ) as the result of abuse.



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6