



Volvo Car USA LLC: Statement on Steering Columns

The steering column is a key component of the vehicle's crash energy management system and is designed to absorb energy during an impact. Even in minor accidents not including air bag deployments, the steering column can be compromised, affecting the vehicle's safety systems and driver control. Therefore, Volvo Cars requires a thorough inspection of the steering column assembly following any collision event, regardless of the severity.

The steering column is designed to collapse or deform in specific ways during a collision to protect the driver. Even minor impacts can cause internal damage that may not be visible. Failure to inspect and, if necessary, repair or replace the steering column may result in diminished crashworthiness in future incidents.

A steering column houses critical components of the vehicle's safety systems, including airbag mechanisms and sensors. Damage to these systems can prevent proper airbag deployment, leading to an increased risk of injury in subsequent accidents.

A damaged steering column can impair the driver's ability to control the vehicle, leading to an increased risk of an incident occurring. Symptoms such as stiffness, excessive play, or misalignment can indicate underlying damage that requires attention.

- Technicians must thoroughly inspect the steering column assembly following any collision. The inspection should include, but not be limited to:
 - Visual and tactile checks for deformation, cracks, or misalignment in the column and surrounding components.
 - Functional tests to ensure proper movement, responsiveness, and alignment.
 - Diagnostic checks of any safety-related sensors or components housed within the steering column.
- Any damage, no matter how minor, requires replacement of the steering column.

- The results of the steering column inspection must be documented, including the technician's findings, and retained as part of the vehicle's repair records.
- Any replacements made to the steering column should adhere strictly to Volvo Cars guidelines and use new OEM-approved parts.

Failure to comply with these inspection requirements could result in unsafe driving conditions and potential harm to passengers and others.

Caution!

When Vehicle is being connected to VIDA for diagnostics or software download, a battery maintainer must be connected to ensure 12V battery remains charged.

Utilizing only genuine Volvo parts will help ensure vehicle safety, performance, and residual value.

Volvo genuine parts are designed and manufactured to exact specifications to help maximize safety, performance, and reliability.

All Volvo exterior paneling, glass, unibody components, drivetrain, electronics, suspension SRS and steering components are essential to safe control of the vehicle. These parts are designed to work with other vehicle components to help keep occupants safe in an accident.

In the event of a collision, Volvo Cars recommends that all repairs be performed by a Volvo Certified Technician through a Volvo Certified Collision Center using only genuine Volvo Cars parts.

Always refer to Volvo Information and Diagnostics for Aftersales (VIDA) for the latest technical guidelines.