



U.S. Department
of Transportation
National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire
To Report Vehicle Safety Defects
1-888-DASH-2-DOT
(1-888-327-4236)
INTERNET www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100216

Date Received

10-MAY-2004

Repository ☐

Reference No. 4: 02
10073404

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name

Address

City

COTTONWOOD

State

CA

Zip Code

Daytime Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Evening Telephone Number

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? ☐ YES ☒ NO
In the absence of an authorized signature, provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.
Signature of Owner _____ Date 5/18/04

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side

3FASP15J6

Make

FORD

Model

ESCORT

Model Year

1995

Date Purchased

Dealer's Name and Telephone Number

Engine:

No. Cylinders

4

Fuel Type:

GAS

Original Owner

Dealer's City

State

Zip Code

Transmission Type

☒ Anti-lock Brakes

Powertrain

☒ Cruise Control

Vehicle Component Code

071100 FUEL SYSTEM, GASOLINE:STORAGE:TANK ASSEMBLY

Multiple Failure: 2

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s)

Failure Mileage

65,000

Failure Speed

55

Gas tank cracked due to heat shield support, which should have been removed.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make

Tire Model (Name or Number)

Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)

DOT No. (Example: DOTN13ABC036)

☐ Original Equipment
☐ Prior Repair

Failure Location:

Tire Component Code

Tire Failure Type

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make:

Date Manufactured:

Model No./Name:

Seat Type:

Installation System:

Child Seat Component Code:

Failed Part:

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(ies).)

Crash

☐ Yes ☒ No

Fire

☐ Yes ☒ No

Number of Persons Injured

0

Number of Deaths

0

Reported to Police

N

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).

Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure, i.e., parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

WHILE DRIVING 55 MPH, THE DRIVER SMELLED GAS COMING FROM THE REAR. THE DRIVER WAS ABLE TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OF THE VEHICLE AND PULLED OVER. THE DRIVER NOTICED THE FUEL TANK WAS LEAKING GAS. THE VEHICLE WAS TAKEN TO THE DEALER FOR INSPECTION. THE MECHANIC INFORMED THE DRIVER THAT THE FUEL TANK NEEDED TO BE REPLACED. PLEASE PROVIDE FURTHER DETAILS.

*JB I took the car to my mechanic not the dealer, the dealer would not warranty the failure.

This is a recall item, enclosed is a copy of the recall. It cost me \$16.99 to make the car safe again.

Include, if available, Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579) This information is requested pursuant to authority granted in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies)

I have had to replace the fuel tank on my car because of a crack in the plastic tank at the support for the heat shield. The heat shield was to protect the tank from the exhaust heat. Gas was leaking all down the tank and very close to the hot exhaust pipe. Ford knows about this problem and has warranteed the repair of other cars. They make and made as mine. I was forced to repair the car as it was highly unsafe the way it was. I am sending you a copy of the Recall Service Bulletin and a copy of the repair bill that I paid.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use \$300

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO 73173 WASHINGTON, D.C.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY NATL. HWY. TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN.

U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation, NVS-216
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

**VEHICLE
OWNER'S
QUESTIONNAIRE**

DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE

TO REPORT VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECTS
COMPLETE THIS FORM
ON

DASH2DOT

and dial toll free at

1-888-DASH-2-DOT
1-888-327-4236

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
(DASH) 2 DOT



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<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline>

Fuel Tank: All Technical Service Bulletins

Recall 97V144000: Cracks in the Fuel Tank

Passenger vehicles equipped with 1.9L engines, built at the Hermosillo or Wayne Assembly Plants and originally sold or is currently registered in Arizona, Nevada, Florida, Hawaii, Texas, California, Louisiana, Georgia, South Carolina, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Alabama and Arkansas. Cracks can develop in the fuel tank near the heat shield attachment resulting in fuel leakage if the cracks go through the fuel tank wall.

Fuel leakage in the presence of an ignition source can result in a vehicle fire.

Dealers will remove the heat shield attachments. This will not affect heat shield location or function, as the attachments are intended to keep the shield in place until the fuel tank is installed in the vehicle. After installation, the fuel tank straps retain the heat shield. Owner notification will begin September 30, 1997. Owners who take their vehicles to an authorized dealer on an agreed upon service date and do not receive the free remedy within a reasonable time should contact Ford at 1-800-392-3673. Also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Auto Safety Hotline at 1-800-424-9393.

**THE ATTACHMENTS TO THIS
DOCUMENT HAVE BEEN REMOVED
TO PROTECT UNWARRANTED
INVASION OF PERSONAL PRIVACY
PURSUANT TO EXEMPTION 6 OF
THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).**