

Jimenez, Alberto

From: Jimenez, Alberto
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2005 3:51 PM
To:
Subject: 1997 ford f250 electrical fire in steering wheel=wire too small for amps

Dear vehicle Owner:

NVS-216 aaj

Thank you for your e-mail to NHTSA's Webmaster, which was received by NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation. We apologize for the delay in answering your e-mail and use of this form letter; however, due to the number of e-mails received and limited resources, we are responding to your correspondence in this manner. A member of our staff may contact you if further information is needed.

NHTSA is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain serious safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. We also monitor the adequacy of manufacturers' recall campaigns. In order for the agency to initiate an investigation, sufficient data must exist to warrant the expenditure of agency resources. We cannot act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

Reports from motorists concerning vehicle problems are a very important source of information for us. If you wish to provide information with regard to motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment problems or problems with regard to recall corrective actions and have not done so, please complete the vehicle owner's questionnaire (VOQ) that is available on NHTSA's Web site at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/voq <<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/voq>>. Each report is analyzed and compiled into a database to assist us in identifying potential safety problems or recall inadequacies that require our attention.

You may also obtain information about recalls, investigations, and other safety related information by accessing NHTSA website at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems <<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems>>. For other information please call our DOT Auto safety Hotline toll-free number at 1-888-327-4236.

If further assistance is needed, please contact Mr. Michael J. Jordan, Office of Defects Investigation, Correspondence Research Division, at: (202) 493-0576.

Sincerely,

Alberto A. Jimenez, Chief
Correspondence Research Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement

P.S. Please complete and submit the VOQ ^{and} mentioned above. We need the information on that form to have a more complete ~~descripitin~~ description of the vehicle and problem.

description

i had a great deal of smoke coming from the center of my steering wheel hub. i removed same and found the

wire gang melted. to me it appeared that the wire was not sized properly to carry the amperage to the light at the terminus of the shift lever(overdrive). at present it is disconnected. My guess is a larger wire or more insulation would solve the problem ???