



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 100148

Date Received

17-AUG-2006

Repository

Reference No.
10165764

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
City PALM SPRINGS State FL Zip Code [REDACTED]

Daytime Telephone Number [REDACTED]

E-mail Address [REDACTED]

Evening Telephone Number [REDACTED]

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? YES NO
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.
Signature of Owner [Signature] Date 8/21/06

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side
2MELM75 [REDACTED] Make MERCURY Model GRAND MARQUIS Model Year 2001
Date Purchased 20-NOV-05 Dealer's Name and Telephone Number Enter prise cars 410 1-800-CAR 54105 Engine: No: Cylinders 8 Fuel Type: Gas
Original Owner Dealer's City North Palm Beach FL State FL Zip Code [REDACTED]
Transmission Type AUTOMATIC Antilock Brakes Cruise Control Powertrain REAR WHEEL DRIVE Vehicle Component Code 070000 FUEL SYSTEM, GASOLINE
Multiple Failure: 1

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s) 17-AUG-2006 Failure Mileage 49000 Failure Speed [REDACTED]

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make [REDACTED] Tire Model (Name or Number) [REDACTED] Tire Size (Example P215/65R15) [REDACTED]
DOT No. (Example: DOTMAL9ABC036) Original Equipment Prior Repair Failure Location: [REDACTED]
Tire Component Code [REDACTED] Tire Failure Type [REDACTED]

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make: [REDACTED] Date Manufactured: [REDACTED] Model No./Name: [REDACTED]
Seat Type: [REDACTED] Installation System: [REDACTED]
Child Seat Component Code: [REDACTED] Failed Part: [REDACTED]

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 [REDACTED] Number of Deaths [REDACTED] 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).

DT*: THE CONTACT STATED THERE WAS A STRONG SMELL OF GASOLINE FUMES IN THE VEHICLE. THE CONTACT RECEIVED A RECALL LETTER REGARDING THE FUEL FILTER. THE DEALER WAS ALERTED AND REFUSED TO CONDUCT THE NHTSA RECALL, # 06E056000, REGARDING FUEL SYSTEM, GASOLINE. THE DEALERSHIP INSTRUCTED THE CONTACT TO CONTACT THE MANUFACTURER. THE VEHICLE WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE RECALL DUE TO THE VIN.

VIN# 2MEFM75W [REDACTED]

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 vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond 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.

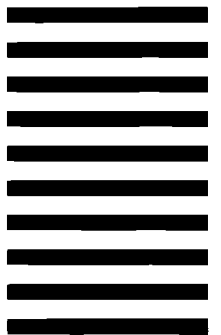
Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies)

Due to a leaking fuel filter, my vehicle could have ignited and set on fire while driving down the road. I incurred gasoline losses from April 6, 2006 - August 26, 2006. SEE include information.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES



BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO 73173 WASHINGTON, D.C.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY NAFL HWY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN.

U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Defects Investigation, NVS-210
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**Think your vehicle
has a safety defect?**



**If so:
Use the enclosed
form to file a report.**

**or visit:
www.safercar.gov**

**or call:
Vehicle Safety Hotline
888-327-4236**



Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire (VOC)
U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
www.nhtsa.dot.gov





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

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

Dear Consumer:

NVS-216 aaj

As a result of your recent report to the Vehicle Safety Hotline (VSH), we have recorded that report on the enclosed Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire (VOQ) form. Please review the form and make changes, additions and corrections as necessary. Additionally, please provide a more detailed description of the failure(s) you reported that you believe is(are) relevant to safety. Also, if available, include copies of repair invoices, letters to the manufacturer, or any other document related to the problem(s) you reported. If a crash or fire occurred, include a copy of the police or fire department report.

It is helpful to be as thorough as possible in your report so that our ability to use your report will be maximized. If you do not have the information, it is not necessary to complete all the boxes. However, it is very difficult to identify the scope of a vehicle problem unless the vehicle identification number (VIN) is known. The VIN is located inside the vehicle on the dashboard adjacent to the left (driver's side) of the windshield pillar and on the driver's door or the driver's door jam. It may also be listed on the dealer's repair invoices. When reporting a tire problem, the brand name, tire name and complete tire size should be included. If possible also provide the DOT tire identification number. It is usually located near the rim flange of the tire on either side of the tire.

The Privacy Act prohibits our agency from identifying you to the manufacturer without your permission. If you wish to give us that permission, please mark the appropriate authorization box and sign the form to allow us to provide your name to the manufacturer. The information you provide may assist the manufacturer and NHTSA in determining if a safety-related defect exists.

Any information provided is entirely voluntary. There is no consequence or penalty of any kind if you do not wish to provide it. We seek this information to develop both statistical and investigative evidence that will help identify potential safety related problems in vehicle or vehicle equipment, e.g., tires, child safety seats, jacks, etc.

When completed, please fold and staple or tape the form so that the pre-address portion of the form is on the out side. If a larger envelope is used, tape the VOQ form to the larger envelope so that the pre-address portion of the form is showing.

If further assistance is needed, please contact the VSH at their toll-free number, 1-888-327-4236.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure: VOQ



DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE
888-DASH-2-DOT
888-327-4236

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Palm Springs, Fl [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

August 28, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

Due to a defective puralator fuel filter made in China, Code 5-12-032, date 10-12-2005. I've incurred losses in gasoline and ask that I be reimbursed for these losses by the manufacturer (Sofima Automotive Filer Company).

2001 Mercury Grand Marqui

VIN # 2MEFM75W [REDACTED]

10,000 miles was travelled on the car from April 6, 2006 - August 26, 2006

This defective puralator fuel filter made in China could have ignited and set on fire while I was driving down the road, with little or no chance of escape.

The car before installing your defective puralator fuel filter was 24 miles per gallon of gas

The Car after installing your defective Puralator Fuel Filter at Pep Boys went down to 17 miles per gallon of gas.

10,000 miles divided by 24 miles per gallon of gas = 588.4

10,000 miles divided by 17 miles per gallon of gas = 416

588 from 416 = 172 and 172 times \$3.00 per

**gallon of gas = \$516.00 in losses of gas
Therefore I'm requesting that I receive a
check for \$516.00 in losses in gas due to
your defective puralator fuel filter**



07/01/2006

[REDACTED]
Lake Worth, FL [REDACTED]

**Sofima Automotive Filer Company (UFI Filters USA, Inc.)
Fuel Filer Recall – NHTSA Recall 06E-056**

Dear Robert Lott,

This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

As more fully described in the attached Notice, Sofima Automotive Filer Company/UFI Filters USA, Inc. (“Sofima”), the manufacturer of certain of the automotive fuel filters that we sell, has advised us that a defect, that may relate to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain production runs of their fuel filters. The suspect filters can be identified as follows:

- Purolater Fuel Filter Part Number F65277, and
- The filter metal body is black in color, and
- The filter country of origin ‘Made in China’ is printed on the body of the filter.

Please note that part number F65277 stainless steel fuel filers with country of origin ‘Made in USA’ are not involved in this recall.

To insure your safety and to make sure that you are completely satisfied with your Pep Boys’ purchase, we are recalling all of the fuel filters from this production run.

Our records indicate that your fuel filter was installed during the time when fuel filters from this production run may have been in our inventory. Therefore, we will be pleased to inspect the fuel filter on your vehicle, at no charge, to determine if it is from this production run. If it is, we will replace your fuel filter, at no charge to you.



What you should do:

1. At your earliest convenience, please take your vehicle to the nearest Pep Boys for a free inspection and replacement filter, if needed.
2. Please bring this letter and your original work order when you visit Pep Boys.

What Pep Boys will do:

1. Identify the fuel filter installed on your vehicle.
2. If it was manufactured during the applicable production run, Pep Boys will replace it with a new fuel filter at NO COST to you.

Pep Boys and Purolator apologize for this inconvenience, but want to assure you that your safety and customer satisfaction are of our utmost concern. As always, we appreciate your business

Sincerely,

Pep Boys

If we fail or are unable to replace your recalled fuel filter without charge and within a reasonable time, you may submit a written complaint to: Administrator, National Highway Safety Administration, 400 Seventh St. SW, Washington DC 20590 or call 1-888-DASH-2-DOT (1-888-327-4236) or go to <http://www.safecar.gov>.

August 1, 2006

TO: All Purchasers of Purolator Filters NA LLC Part number F65277 Manufactured by Sofima automotive Filter Company (UFI Filters USA, Inc.)

**NOTICE: Sofima Automotive Filter Company (UFI Filters USA, Inc.)
Fuel Filter Recall - NHTSA Recall 06E-056**

Dear Purolator Filters NA LLC Customer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Sofima Automotive Filter Company/UFI Filters USA, Inc. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain production runs of Sofima Automotive Filter Company fuel filter part number 31.769.02, corresponding to Purolator Part Number F65277. The connector stem on these filters can be up to 0.040" in excess of the specified length. This will prevent certain 'quick' connect clips from functioning properly. If this condition occurs while attempting to start the vehicle, a no start condition may result and fuel may be pumped out onto the ground. If this condition occurs while the vehicle is in motion, the engine may stop due to inadequate fuel supply. If an ignition source were present, fuel leakage may result in a fire.

Identification of fuel filter covered by the recall:

The Sofima filters were shipped by Purolator Filters NA LLC to its customers between January 16, 2006 and June 1, 2006. The suspect filters can be identified as follows:

- Purolator filter part number F65277, and
- The filter metal body is black in color, and
- The filter country of origin 'Made in China' is printed on the body of the filter

NOTE: Part Number F65277 stainless steel fuel filters with country of origin 'Made in USA' are not involved in this recall.

WHAT WILL BE DONE?

Sofima/UFI Filters will replace filters subject to this recall free of cost. You may return the filter to the place that you purchased it to receive a replacement filter for which you will be reimbursed by Sofima/UFI Filters. If the subject filter has been installed on a vehicle, you may take the vehicle to a service facility of your choice, and Sofima/UFI Filters will reimburse you for the cost of the replacement filter and a reasonable amount for the cost for installation of a new filter, based upon Chilton standard hourly times for fuel filter replacement.

To receive reimbursement for the parts and service, the customer should provide all of the following information to UFI Filters USA, Inc. c/o Saddle Creek Copak at 3555 Shamrock Road, Harrisburg, NC 28075.

- Customer name;
- Vehicle Make and Model;
- VIN;
- Date Code of the Replaced Part; and
- A copy of your invoice(s) for the replacement part and installation.

Please remember, the only recalled filter is Purolator filter part number F65277. The filter metal body is black in color. The filter country of origin 'Made in China' is printed on the body of the filter.

Communication:

If you conclude that Sofima/UFI Filters has not enabled you to remedy this condition in a reasonable time, you may call Sofima/UFI Filters at 1-800-230-5876. If you are still not satisfied, you may submit a complaint to the:

Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

- or -

Call the toll free Vehicle Safety Hotline: 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 800-424-9153): or go to
<http://www.safercar.gov>.

We regret any inconvenience that this situation may cause. Purolator and Sofima/UFI Filters want to assure you that we are concerned for customer safety and your continued satisfaction with our products.

Sincerely,
UFI Filters, USA

**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).**