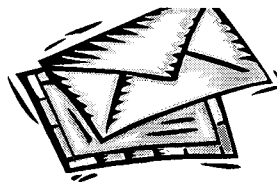


NHTSA ccmMercury Routing Slip



Printed: 8/24/2006

NHTSA #: ES06-005331

XREF #:

Delivery: HND

Rec'd Date: 8/22/2006

Doc Type: CNG

Address To:

Referred By: NPO-011

Doc Date: 8/3/2006

Due Date: 9/1/2006

S10 #:

DOT/I #:

RMP #:

Subject: LTR FROM [REDACTED] (FL) RE FOUR TIRE THREAD SEPARATIONS ON HIS 2003 FORD F350 4X4 LARIAT W/DUAL REAR WHEELS, REPLY TO THE ORLANDO OFC

Ack Date:

Sign Office: DIRECTOR FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Cleared Date:

File Loc:

Added By: SHARRIS x62534

Ack By:

Signature: HARRINGTON

Cleared By:

XREF File:

Modified By: MICHELLE.RICE

Signed For:

Cleared For:

Closed Date:

Most Recent Comment:

Author:

The Honorable BILL NELSON
UNITED STATES SENATE

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

Tel: Fax: E-mail:

Assigned To	Task	Asgn Date	Deadline	Returned Date
NVS-200	REPLY	8/23/2006	9/1/2006	
	Return Process	8/24/2006		8/24/2006
ODI	REPLY	8/24/2006	8/30/2006	
NVS-010	INFORMATION	8/23/2006		8/23/2006
NIA-110	INFORMATION	8/23/2006		8/23/2006
I10	INFORMATION	8/23/2006		8/23/2006
I20	INFORMATION	8/23/2006		8/23/2006

Maria
8/24/06

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT



2006 AUG 22 A United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

RECEIVED

2006 AUG 17 A 3:44

DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION

AUG 07 2006

Office of The Secretary

BILL NELSON
FLORIDA

TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN.

August 3, 2006

Secretary Jose Abreu
Florida Department of Transportation
Haydon Burns Building
605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450

Dear Secretary Abreu:

Please find enclosed correspondence I received from one of my constituents. It involves an important matter under the jurisdiction of your agency.

Your review and response to the issues raised would be greatly appreciated. Please send your correspondence directly to my office and reference [redacted] for our records. I look forward to a response at your earliest convenience and thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,

Bill Nelson

BN/fd

Enclosure

I believe this would be a NHTSA Issue -

United States Senator Bill Nelson, Landmark Two, 225 East Robinson Street, Suite 410, Orlando, Florida 32801
Telephone: (407) 872-7161 • Toll-Free in Florida Only (888) 671-4091 • Fax: (407) 872-7165
<http://billnelson.senate.gov>

ES06-005331



Constituent

[Redacted]

Phone: [Redacted]
Email: [Redacted]
Promoted From Correspondence

Largo, FL
Pinellas

Details

Case Type: Casework
Category: Transportation
Date Received: 07/27/2006
Assigned To: Frank DeToma
Status: Pending
Received Via: Web

Casework Description: Mr. Vas is complaining about the DOT allowing certain kinds of tires.

Web Mail Message

Contact type:

agency

Agency:

Department of Transportation

Details:

Dear Bill, Please help
Thank you
Four tire thread separations on New 2003 New Ford F350 4x4 Lariat with dual rear wheels

Below are the DOT numbers, they all start with DOT ADOR 1P6

These are the four with the thread separations 2202, 2802, 2202, 2202

These three including spare are now off the truck 2802, 2802, 2202

First occurrence Bad thread separation on the front passenger side tire 8/26/04 on I-75 N time 5.30 am near Dade City area, at 65 mph at 18,000 miles on the original tire.

The awning on the trailer towed by the truck at the time was damaged in the first occurrence, damage was \$1483.62 with a \$1000 deductible that I had to pay.

Just got the truck back from getting it fixed where insurance co. GEICO paid \$3500 for damages and my deductible is \$250 plus the cost of the new tire not covered by insurance \$95.12 that I paid, made appointment to get drivers side tire and spare tire to be replaced on 11/23/04. the second occurrence happened

on 11/22/04.

Second occurrence on front drivers side tire thread separation 11/22/04 on I-275 N time 11:30 am near St. Petersburg area, at 50 mph at 20,000 miles on the original tire, damages were \$1500 paid by GEICO, and my deductible is another \$250 plus the \$190.46 for two new tires one to replace the bad tire and another to replace the spare since we have completely lost faith in Continental General Tires and Ford.

Third occurrence on driver's side rear inside tire on 7/18/05 at 10:15 am near Bears Ave. Tampa exit on I-275 N, at 24,000 miles replaced two more tires cost me \$257.06.

Fourth occurrence on passenger side rear inside tire on 11/17/05 at 4:00 pm in Port Ritchie on US 19 S at 26,000 miles, replaced last bad as well as the other last general tire on truck at another \$282.61.

We almost got killed all four times, I am sure everyone agrees this should not happen even once let alone four times, and I still have all these tires that are made by General/Continental tires for Ford Factory OEM, some of the bad tires with thread separation actually hold air, Ford is known for tire problems more so with thread separation, at the first occurrence I asked General/Continental tires and Ford to replace all tires, and pay my insurance deductible, they refused to do so, since we do not feel safe driving or riding in the truck we would like the truck replaced, my deductibles reimbursed and if this goes to court any future costs like court fees, attorney fees, expenses, interest reimbursed, I have lost tremendous amount of personal time as well as work time over this.

General/Continental wanted the tires shipped to them, we do not feel comfortable sending the tire to them unless they inspect them in our presence, if we do send the tire it will be to NTSB/NHTSA and the IHS insurance institute for highway safety, Ford asked me to take the tire to their dealer to get it inspected 3 times, the dealer Ford had me take it to was Walker Ford, the first time we made an appointment to take it in, the service manager at Walker Ford refused to participate in this but agreed the tire thread had indeed separated, the second time Walker Ford service manager took pictures of the tires, I did hear back from Ford after the second occurrence that someone from their regional department would contact me in a week, again for the third time we took the tires down to Walker Ford so the Ford regional dept. guy could take some more pictures.

We also contacted Courtesy Ford in Sanford FL the dealer we purchased the truck from regarding each occurrence and so far no response.

Since then a couple of more mechanical items that broke down in this truck were covered under warranty, in total that is six items that have broke on this new truck.

Since then I have discovered this has happened to many other people and Ford or Continental General has shown no concern for safety, the folks that actually shipped the tires to Continental General never saw their tires back.

Additionally Continental/General is allowing Ford to put 4 ply tires on the Ford F350 4x4 with dual rear wheels, while GM uses 6 ply tires and Dodge uses 5 ply tires on similar trucks.

Largo, FL

Cell:

Home:

History

Casework Information

Route History:


07/27/2006 - 08:48 AM - Juan Lopez - Printed Tracksheet

07/27/2006 08:47:29 AM - Juan Lopez - Promoted

Office Origin

OR

Print History

 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 20-DEC-2004		Repository <input type="checkbox"/> Reference No. 10104145 <i>INVOIR</i>	
OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)					
Name		Daytime Telephone Number		E-mail Address	
Address		Evening Telephone Number			
City	State	Zip Code			
LARGO	FL				
Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.					
Signature of Owner _____			Date ____/____/____		
VEHICLE INFORMATION					
17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side			Make FORD	Model F350 SUPER DUTY	Model Year 2003
Date Purchased	Dealer's Name and Telephone Number COURTESY FORD			Engine: No: Cylinders	Fuel Type:
Original Owner <input type="checkbox"/>	Dealer's City SANFORD	State FL	Zip Code		
Transmission Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Antilock Brakes <input type="checkbox"/> Cruise Control	Powertrain	Vehicle Component Code 191000 TIRES:TREAD/BELT		
			Multiple Failure: 2		
FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION					
Incident Date(s) 22-NOV-2004	Failure Mileage	Failure Speed			
ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE					
Tire Make GENERAL	Tire Model (Name or Number) 29575R225		Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)		
DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Prior Repair	Failure Location:			
Tire Component Code 191000 TIRES:TREAD/BELT			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 <i>(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and injury(ies).)</i>					
Crash <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Fire <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Number of Persons Injured	Number of Deaths	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).					
SECOND OCCURRENCE OF THREAD SEPARATION WITH GENERAL TIRES. *AK					
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 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.					



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

23-SEP-2004

Repository

Reference No.
10093089

IVOR

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name

Address

City

LARGO

State

FL

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 authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.

Signature of Owner _____ Date ____/____/____

VEHICLE INFORMATION

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

Make

FORD

Model

F350 SUPER DUTY

Model Year

2003

Date Purchased

Dealer's Name and Telephone Number
COURTESY FORD

Engine:

No: Cylinders

Fuel Type:

Original Owner

Dealer's City
SANFORD

State

FL

Zip Code

Transmission Type

Antilock Brakes

Powertrain

Cruise Control

Vehicle Component Code

191000 TIRES:TREAD/BELT

Multiple Failure: 1

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s)
26-AUG-2004

Failure Mileage

Failure Speed

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make

GENERAL TIRE

Tire Model (Name or Number)

UNKNOWN

Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)

235 85 16

DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036)

Original Equipment
 Prior Repair

Failure Location: PASSENGER SIDE FRONT

Tire Component Code

191000 TIRES:TREAD/BELT

Tire Failure Type TREAD SEPARATION

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

Number of Deaths

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).

FRONT PASSENGER SIDE TREAD SEPARATION GENERAL TYRE OEM ON FORD F350. *JB

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.