



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

Auto Safety Hotline

Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire

NATIONWIDE 1-800-424-9393
DC METRO AREA (202) 366-0123
INTERNET: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 160

Date Received

26-APR-2001

Od_or _____
rt_dt _____
pd_rt _____
rp_lr _____

Reference No.

886880

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? ☐ YES ☐ NO
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name and address to the vehicle manufacturer.

Signature of Owner _____ Date ____/____/____

VEHICLE INFORMATION

Vehicle Ident. No. (VIN) (Locate at bottom of windshield or driver's side door)		Vehicle Make	Vehicle Model	Vehicle Year	Current Odometer Reading
1FMDU34X4TUB33321		FORD TRUCK	EXPLORER	1996	
Purchase Date	Dealer's Name _____		Engine Size (CID/CC/L _____)	☐ Turbo ☐ Diesel ☐ Gas ☐ Fuel Injection	
☐ New ☒ Used	City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____		No Cylinders _____		
Transmission Type	Antilock Brakes	Restraint System	Cruise Control	Drive Train	Vehicle Type
☐ Manual ☐ Automatic	☒ Yes ☐ No	☐ 3-Point Belt ☐ Driverside Airbag ☐ Passengerside Airbag ☐ Motorbelt ☐ 2-Point Belt	☒ Yes ☐ No	☐ Front ☐ Rear ☐ 4-Wheel	☐ Car ☐ Van ☐ Minivan ☐ Other _____ ☐ Sport Util ☐ Truck ☐ Motorcycle
					Body Style
					☐ 2-Door ☐ 4-Door ☐ Stationwagon ☐ Pick Up Truck ☒ Other _____

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Component 04141000	Part Name(s) EMERGENCY PARKING BRAKE:MECHANICAL:WARNING SYSTEM	Location ☐ Left ☐ Right ☐ Front ☐ Rear	Failed Part(s) ☐ Original ☐ Replacement
No of Failure	Date(s) of Failure(s) _____ Mileage at Failure(s) _____	Failed Part(s) ☐ Yes ☐ No	NHTSA Previously ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPLICATION INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies) on the back of this form)

Crash ☐ Yes ☒ No	Fire ☐ Yes ☒ No	Number of Persons Injured	Number of Fatalities	Estimated Property Damage	Reported to Police ☐ Yes ☒ No
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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF FAILURE(S), INCIDENT(S), INJURY(IES)

DRIVER'S SIDE EMERGENCY BRAKE LINE IS TOO LONG , ABOUT 6-8 INCHES LONGER, AND IT RUBS AGAINST AND WEARS INTO LEFT REAR TIRE, ALMOST INTO SIDEWALL. THIS COULD CAUSE AN UNEXCEPTED BLOWOUT WITHOUT WARNING, AND COULD RESULT IN A CRASH. IT WAS RUBBING SO BADLY AGAINST TIRE THAT IT HAS WORN OFF NAME OFF TIRE.PLEASE PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION. *AK

COPIES OF THIS FORM ARE:

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.

Fold to show Return Address (no stamp needed) Fasten with tape or staple and mail

INFORMATION ON TIRE FAILURE(S) (IF APPLICABLE)

TIRE IDENTIFICATION NO.*

D O T WIA

MANUFACTURER/TIRE NAME

Goodyear

SIZE N/A

* The identification number consists of 7 to 10 letters and numerals following the letters DOT. It is usually located near the rim flange on the side opposite the whitewall or on either side of a blackwall tire.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (CONTINUED)

On 4/24/01 I changed the oil on my son's explorer, I inspected the underside of the vehicle & tires. I found the emergency brake cable on the drivers side rear had been rubbing against the tire. The cable appears to be too long and the plastic clip that is supposed to hold the cable away from the tire can slip down and allow this situation to occur. The tire had worn thru the vinyl protective coating of the cable it also wore thru the vinyl cable coating and had begun to wear away the metal protective case of the cable. The bad part is it was wearing away the inside sidewall of the left-rear tire. If I hadn't inspected the underside of my son's vehicle he could possibly have been involved in a highway traffic accident. I thank God I found this situation before it got to that point. Some else with this vehicle may not be so lucky.

On 4/25/01 I called Bob Dennison, Ford Dealership to report the situation. The Service Mgr was out of the office. My Salesman Spike said he would have Jerry Long the Dealership Service Rep talk to me.

On 4/26/01 Jerry Long from Bob Dennison called & I scheduled to take the vehicle in so he could see it. I took the afternoon off to take the vehicle in. When I explained the situation to him, he seemed more concerned about me filing a lawsuit than anything. For Motor Co of this potentially serious condition on the 96 Explorer, listed below is a summary of our conversation. I told him I purchased the car privately but I had the service records. All Service had been performed by Bob Dennison Ford. On 6/20/00 the brakes (front & rear) were inspected by them & they recommended they be replaced. On 7/14/00 the pads (front & rear) and rear rotors & front rotors were turned. On 8/30/00 Bob Dennison performed multi-point inspection. Also, on 7/21/00 they mounted and balanced 4 new tires. He said maybe the previous owner had the brake line replaced. He said when they did the service done above they don't look at the brake lines to see if they are rubbing against a tire. He said this is not a Ford problem. Ford must already know about this condition because the 97 Explorer has a redesign of how the emergency brake line is routed and there is no way it can rub against the tire. He showed me a 97 & 98 and he was right. I asked him six times to have a Ford Rep see this situation he said it was not there problem each time and I would have to contact Ford myself. I contacted Ford, Firestone & Goodyear. * U.S.G.P.O. 1992-625-871/0208

No one seems to care about this situation, I don't want anything but US Department of Transportation Condition to other owners who are unsuspecting of this situation. It could save their life!!!

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

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Penalty for Private Use \$300

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U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
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400 7th Street, SW
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