



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

Office Of Defects Investigation

Memo

To: File
From: Bruce York
CC:
Date: 2/26/04
Re: EA02-025 – 92 - 97 Ford Under Hood Fires

On February 25, 2004, I took two Cruise Control Deactivation Switches (SCDS) from F-Series trucks to the FBI lab in Quantico, VA to have some x-ray images taken of the switch internals. The SCDS switch is a normally closed switch. The switches that were selected for x-ray showed signs of mechanical failure that either caused an open circuit or a high resistance circuit. These pictures were taken to assist in understanding how an SCDS can fail and what the electrical terminals look like after one has failed. The x-rays as seen in Figures 1 through 4 show that electrical activity inside of the switch has caused melting and beading of the terminals.

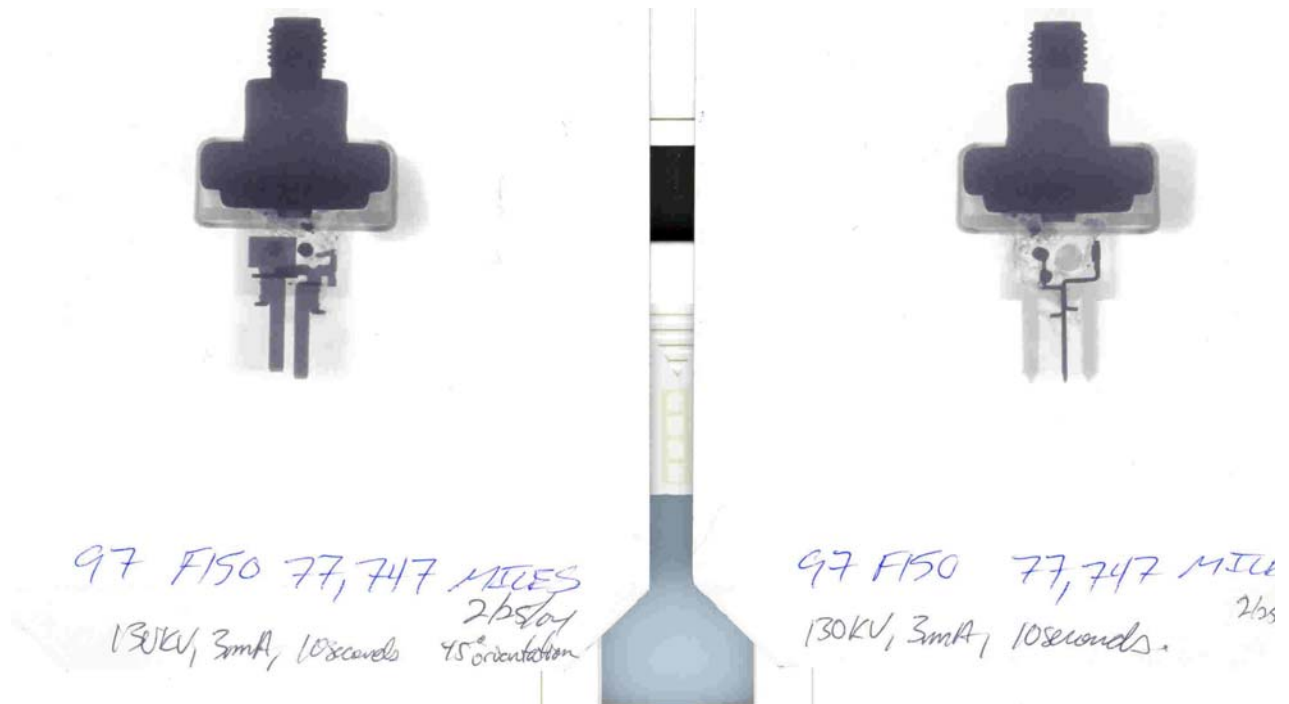


Figure 1 and 2.

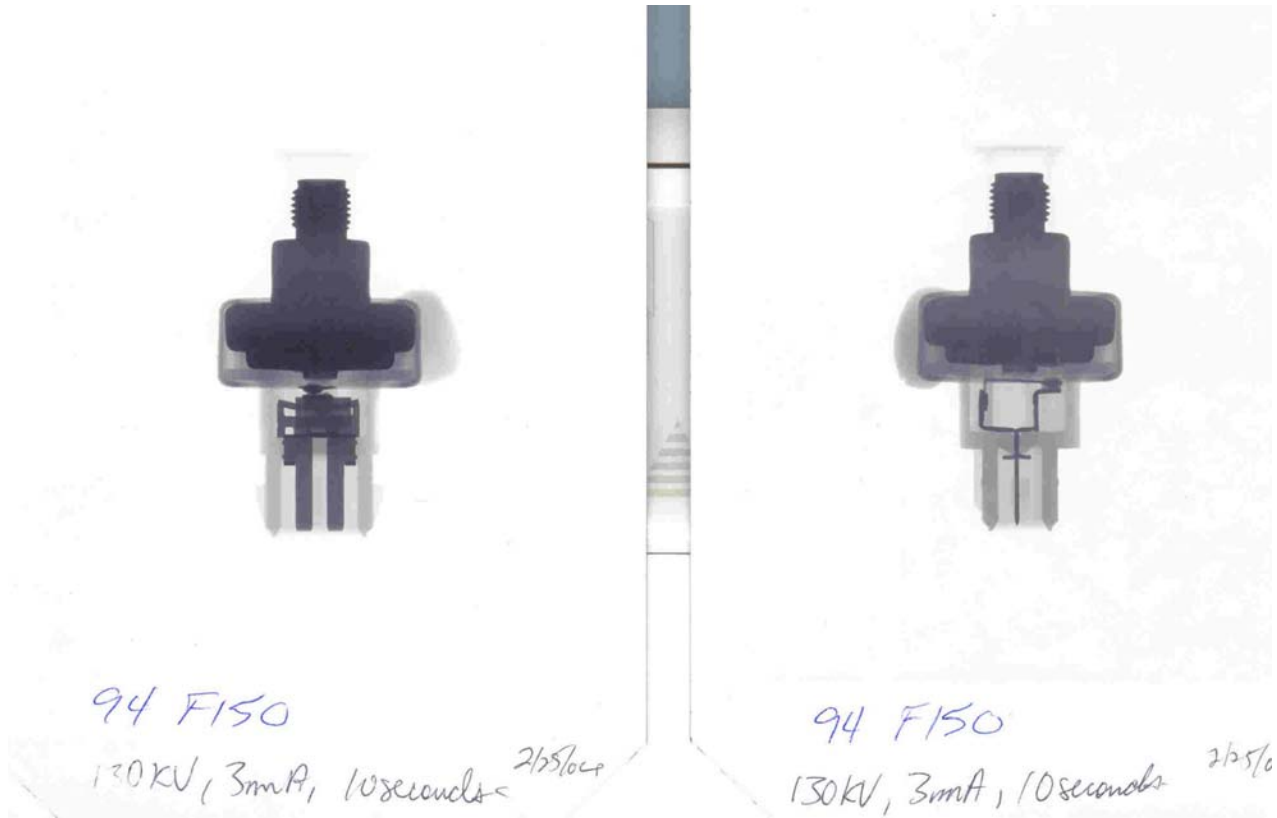


Figure 3 and 4.