



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: EA 12-009
Prompted by: PE10-019
Date Opened: 12/12/2012
Investigator: Stephen Mchenry
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: Floor mat interference with accelerator
Date Closed: 06/12/2014
Reviewer: Jeff Quandt

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Ford Motor Company
Products: 2006-2011 Ford Fusion, Mercury Milan and Lincoln MKZ
Population: 82,579 (Estimated)
Problem Description: The accelerator pedal may fail to return to idle due to interference with all-weather accessory floor mats in the driver's foot-well.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	14	35	45**
Crashes/Fires:	0	1	1
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0

** Total eliminates duplicates received by ODI and manufacturer.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This Engineering Analysis is closed. Recall 14E-028.

Summary:

On May 27, 2014, Ford Motor Company submitted recall 14E-028 (Ford recall #14S07) to correct a safety-related problem with certain driver's side Ford optional all-weather floor mats sold for use in model year 2006 through 2011 model year Ford Fusion, Mercury Milan, Lincoln Zephyr, and Lincoln MKZ vehicles built at Hermosillo Assembly Plant (HAP) from November 9, 2007, to October 31, 2010.

NHTSA testing determined that the original accessory all-weather mat with a single retention clip (Figure 1), may interfere with accelerator pedal return to idle with the mat retained by the clip and rotated clockwise. Both the single- and double-clip (Figure 2) all-weather floor mats may interfere with the accelerator pedal return to idle when the mats are not secured by the retention clip(s). Testing showed that this can occur if the mats are moved forward from the clipped position approximately two inches into a position in which the rear edge of the mats will abut the retention clip (s) when installed singly and align with the clip(s) when stacked on another floor mat.

The pedal interference incidents reviewed by the Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) include 1 crash and 9 incidents with allegations of brake friction materials smoking and/or requiring repair for heat related damage. The crash incident occurred after the parking brake was applied at speed, resulting in loss-of-control vehicle yaw event caused by lock-up of the rear tires. The spin-out resulted in a side impact collision with an oncoming vehicle in an opposing lane of traffic. For the 29 incidents with sufficient information available to make an assessment; 23 (79%) were controlled by the driver either shifting to neutral, turning the engine off, or both; 4 (14%) were ended by the driver either kicking the pedal free (2) or pulling the mat away from the pedal (2); and 2 (7%) were ended by the pedal freeing itself from the mat with no apparent driver action. None of the drivers who reacted to the incident by shifting to neutral or turning the engine off reported any difficulties with either action.

The subject mats were sold by Ford and Lincoln dealers directly to customers as an optional accessory equipment

item or, beginning in November 2007, the mats were also available as a factory installed accessory if ordered with a new vehicle. Ford estimates that approximately 82,579 affected driver's side all weather floor mats were sold worldwide; either over the counter through Ford dealerships or as original equipment.

Owners that purchased the subject all-weather floor mats as a factory installed accessory with their new vehicle will be notified to return their all weather floor mats to their Ford or Lincoln Dealership in exchange for replacement mats. Owners of all other potentially affected vehicles will be notified that, if they have an affected Ford driver's side all weather floor mat, they should return their mats to the dealership in exchange for replacement mats.

The VOQs associated with the closing of this investigation are: 10327597, 10332233, 10334211, 10335336, 10339330, 10348772 (and duplicate 10342572), 10372674, 10379562, 10415911, 10426255, 10434107, 10521053, 10554966.

This investigation is hereby closed.



Figure 1: 6E5J all weather mat



Figure 2: AE5J all weather mat