



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 18-008
Date Opened: 08/03/2018
Investigator: Daniel Hillman
Approver: Stephen Ridella
Subject: Seatbelt Pretensioner Fire

Date Closed: 12/17/2018
Reviewer: Paul Simmons

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Ford Motor Company
Products: 2015-2018 Ford F-150 (Supercrew)
Population: 1,507,056

Problem Description: During a crash, deployment of the seatbelt pretensioner may result in a fire inside the B pillar at the seatbelt floor board anchor.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	16	34	32**
Crashes/Fires:	16	34	32**
Injury Incidents:	1	0	1
Number of Injuries:	3	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0

** Total eliminates duplicates received by ODI and manufacturer.

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: This investigation is closed: Manufacturers recall 18V568000

Summary:

On June 18, 2018, the Office of Defects Investigations (ODI) opened a Preliminary Evaluation (PE18-008) to investigate complaints alleging post-crash fires at the B pillar in the area of the seat belt pretensioners on MY 2014-2018 Ford F-150 Regular Cab, and Super Crew Cab Vehicles.

On August 24, 2018, Ford Motor Company recalled (FSA 18S27 - NHTSA #18V568) the affected population. Ford's investigation found that some front seat belt pretensioners may generate sparks during deployment in excess of Ford's specification. Sparks in the pretensioner exhaust gases inside the lower portion of the B-pillar may subsequently ignite combustible components contained in the B-pillar, such as insulation or carpet, and may cause a subsequent vehicle fire. ODI also requested relevant information from other manufacturers to assess the potential scope of post-crash pretensioner fires.

Ford will notify owners and require dealers to remove B-pillar insulation material and wiring harness tape, and install heat resistant tape, free of charge. The recall notification began September 28, 2018. Owners may contact Ford customer service at 1-866-436-7332.

The VOQs associated with the closing of this investigation are:

11143035, 11130056, 11129828, 11128761, 11127993, 11127880, 11124717, 11123419, 11119651, 11119626, 11114065, 11113160, 11111822, 11097937, 11078447, 11014688