



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION  
REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. **04V-602** by the  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Report Date: **December 17, 2004**      Date E-Mailed: **December 23, 2004**

MANUFACTURER: **Ford Motor Company**

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: **James Vondale, Director, Automotive Safety Office**

**SUBJECT: 262,113 Ford 2004-2005 Escape sport utility vehicles and certain 2001-2003 Escape vehicles having rear liftgate components serviced with 2004 model year equivalent components. These vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 206, 'Door Locks And Door Retention Components.' The rear liftgate latching system does not meet the inertia load requirement in one direction. Ford Recall No. 04C09.**

This is an acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be written only if we have additional comments or concerns.

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Please provide us with a draft owner notification letter for our review before mailing to consumers.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter **in which notification to purchasers occurs**. As stated in your report, the recall is expected to begin on January 24, 2005. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by April 30, 2005.

If you have any questions, please call:

Patricia Wallace, Safety Defects Analyst on (202) 366-5232 or  
George Person, Chief on (202) 366-5210  
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Recall Management Division