



04E-048

September 01, 2004

Mr. George Person, Chief
Recall Management Division
National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20390

Reference: Assigned Recall No. 04E-048

Dear Mr. Person

Please find attached, two Ford/Mercury dealer communications we are forwarding for your files per requirements of CFR49 Part 573.8 "Notices, bulletins, and other communications". These communications are 1) a "second notice" to Ford/Mercury Dealers again requesting a thorough and timely search of their records to identify individual customers to whom they sold the subject service seatbelt assemblies and 2) a "Dealer Instruction Sheet" informing Ford/Mercury Dealers chosen by vehicle owners as their preferred location for repair, how to a) inspect vehicles for subject seatbelt retractors manufactured on the suspect date, b) remove and replace a suspect seatbelt retractor and c) receive reimbursement from TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc. for inspection/replacement labor time and any return shipping costs that may be incurred.

In addition, per requirements of CFR49 Part 577.7 "Time and manner of notification", on August 27, 2004 TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc. began mailing the NHTSA approved recall letter to vehicle owners with potentially suspect seatbelt retractors. Notifications to additional vehicle owners will continue as this information becomes available from the Ford/Mercury Dealers who sold the subject seatbelt retractors.

Please feel free to contact me directly at the telephone number below or fax @ (586) 781-7287 should you have questions regarding this submission.

Sincerely

Charlie Steffens
Director, Safety Systems Technology
TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc.
4505 West 26 Mile Rd.
Washington, MI 48094
(586) 781-7458

NOTE
THIS DOCUMENT IS
ONLY BEING SENT
TO DEALERS THAT
DID NOT RESPOND
TO THE "FIRST"
NOTICE.



"SECOND NOTICE"

Reference attached Vendor FSA Notice 04V09
dated August 12, 2004 issued by Ford Motor Co. This document can
also be located on line @ FMCDealer.com

Dear Ford/Mercury Dealer:

TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc. and certain of its affiliated companies ("TRW") is recalling certain service replacement seatbelt retractors (service part number F7CZ-54611B09-AAC; driver retractor in gray) manufactured in December 2002 and replaced between December 2002 and July 2004 for 1997 - 2003 Model Year Ford Escort / Mercury Tracer sedan and wagon models.

This correspondence is being sent to you in an effort to identify individual customers to whom you sold 1997 - 2003 Ford Escort / Mercury Tracer service replacement seatbelt assemblies between December 2002 and July 2004. Your dealership has been identified by Ford Customer Service Division as having ordered service part number F7CZ-54611B09-AAC during this period.

In order to distribute a recall letter to the appropriate customers, we require you to thoroughly review all records which may indicate the individual(s) to whom you sold the subject retractors during the period in question. Please complete the attached form with details including name, address, telephone and any other relevant information and forward by registered mail to TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc, 4505 W. 26 Mile Rd Washington, MI 48094 Attention Kris Farmer as promptly as possible and in any event before September 13, 2004. Should your records not indicate this information, please respond with a statement to that effect in the "Notes" section of the attached form.

Should you have questions regarding this request, please contact Kris Farmer at TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc. (800) 393- 6043 immediately. Thank you in advance for your support regarding this very important request.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlie Steffens", is written over the printed name.

Charlie Steffens
Director, Systems Technology
TRW Occupant Safety Systems



Dealer Response Form

Dear Ford / Mercury Dealer

Please use this form to reply to TRW with your dealership name and details regarding the individual customers to whom you sold the subject seatbelt retractors. Please include additional sheets if necessary.

Dealer Information

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Customer #1 Information

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Daytime Phone Number _____

Customer #2 Information

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Daytime Phone Number _____

Additional Notes

Number 04V09 Vendor FSA Notice Date: August 12, 2004	1997 – 2003 Ford Escort and Mercury Tracer Vehicles Service Seat Belt Assembly
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INFORMATION ONLY

This is A Vendor Field Service Action Notice.

Affected Vehicles

1997-2003 model year Ford Escort / Mercury Tracer vehicles.

Issue

TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc. ("TRW") is recalling certain service replacement seatbelt retractors (service part number F7CZ-54811B09-AAC; driver's side front retractor in gray) manufactured in December 2002 and sold as a service replacement part between December 2002 and July 2004 for 1997–2003 Model Year Ford Escort / Mercury Tracer sedan and wagon models.

Action

- This correspondence is an effort to identify individual owners of 1997-2003 Ford Escort and Mercury Tracer vehicles that have purchased service replacement seatbelt assemblies from your dealership between December 2002 and July 2004.
- The affected service part number is F7CZ-54811B09-AAC.

Your dealership has been identified by FCSD as having ordered the subject part between December 2002 and July 2004. In order for TRW to contact the affected customers, we are asking specific Ford dealers to thoroughly review all records that may indicate the individual(s) to whom you sold the subject retractors during the period in question. Please compile a detailed list including name, address, telephone and any other relevant information and forward to TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc., 4505 W. 26 Mile Rd., Washington, MI 48094. Attention: Kris Farmer

In addition, should you have a subject retractor assembly in your inventory that was ordered from FCSD between December 2002 and July 2004*: **DO NOT SELL** any of the affected retractor assemblies but return to TRW Automotive for reimbursement. Send retractor assembly to: 3801 Ursula Ave., McAllen, TX 78503. Attention: Jose Rios. For reimbursement, call TRW at (800) 393-6043. FCSD warehouses have been replenished with "Certified" stock and can be contacted for future orders of this retractor.

- * If you do not know the date when you ordered your inventory of retractor assemblies, please check the build code date. Return all retractor assemblies that have a build code date of "494021". (Pulling the belt all the way out from the spool will expose the build date code that is printed on a label sewn to the base of the webbing).

Should you have questions regarding this request, please contact Kris Farmer at TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc. toll free at (800) 393-6043 immediately. Thank you in advance for your support.

Note:

This is a TRW action and Ford has no administrative responsibilities. **DO NOT SUBMIT WARRANTY CLAIMS TO FORD MOTOR COMPANY.**

Questions?	Call: Kris Farmer at TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc. (800) 393-6043
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**1997-2003 Ford Escort/Mercury Tracer
Front Seatbelt Inspection/Replacement
NHTSA Assigned Recall No. 04E-048
Dealer Instruction Sheet**

To: Certain Ford Dealers whose services were chosen by vehicle owners.
From: TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc.

What is the issue?

TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc. and certain of its affiliated companies ("TRW") are recalling certain service replacement front seatbelt retractors (service part number F7CZ-54611B09-AAC; driver retractor in gray) manufactured in December 2002 for 1997 - 2003 Model Year Ford Escort / Mercury Tracer sedan and wagon models.

Reference attached Vendor FSA Notice 04V09 dated August 12, 2004 issued by Ford Motor Co. This document can also be located on line @ FMCDealer.com

The customer chose your dealership

Your Ford / Mercury dealership has been chosen by a customer as the preferred location to have the preliminary inspection and/or replacement performed. You should have already been contacted by a TRW representative to schedule the inspection/replacement. In addition, you should have already received a "certified" replacement seatbelt retractor direct from TRW at no charge.

What we are asking you to do

Schedule a service appointment with the customer and inspect the seatbelt as described in the attached "Service Procedure". If the inspection identifies a suspect seatbelt retractor, it must be replaced with a certified unit.

Should the inspection identify a retractor that is not suspect, you may keep the certified retractor for sale or disposal at your discretion. Should the inspection identify a retractor that is suspect and requires replacement with the "certified" unit, TRW requests that you return the suspect unit to TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc, 4505 W. 26 Mile Rd. Washington, MI 48094 Attention Kris Farmer.

Administration Information

LABOR TIME: Ford Motor Company and TRW have determined that the "inspection" of the subject seatbelt retractor assembly should take 0.3 hrs labor time and the "replacement" of any suspect assembly should take 0.7 hrs labor time as per Labor Operation 61172A.

REIMBURSEMENT: At the time of completion, TRW intends to reimburse your dealership in the amount of 0.3 hrs at your standard labor rate for preliminary inspection and, if required, 0.7 hrs at your standard labor rate for the inspection and replacement of the suspect unit. TRW will also include an additional \$10 above and beyond the replacement charge for any return delivery costs you may incur. To receive reimbursement please submit an invoice, including vehicle identification number (VIN) for the subject vehicle, to TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc at 4505 W. 26 Mile Rd. Washington, MI 48094 Attention Kris Farmer and payment will be issued directly to your dealership.

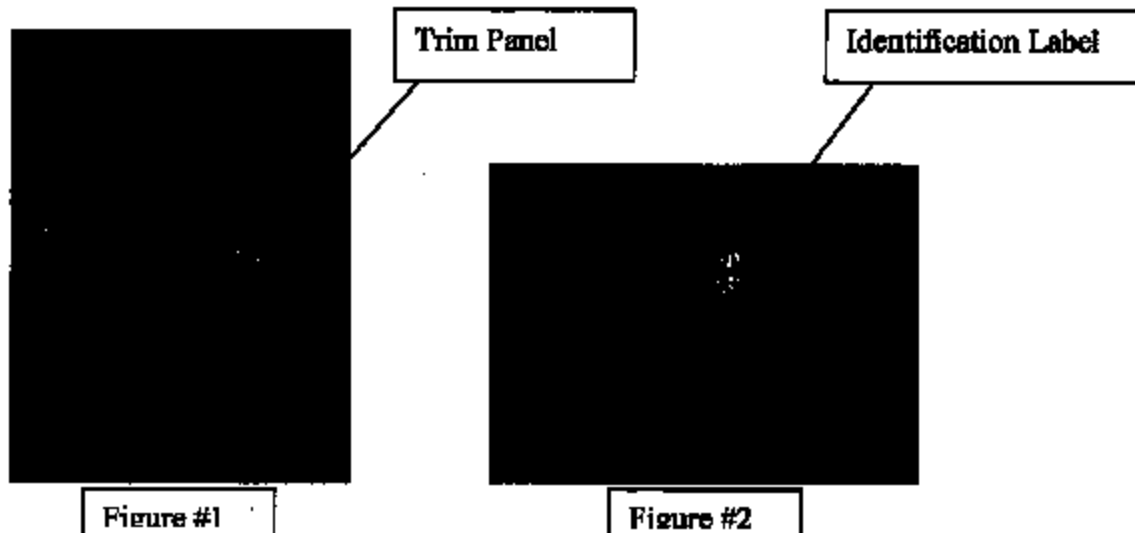


Service Procedure

Listed below are instruction for performing the preliminary inspection and the repair if required:

"Inspection"

As some vehicles may not contain a suspect seatbelt retractor assembly, an inspection of the driver's side seatbelt retractor (color gray only) is necessary. Remove the trim panel from the vehicle's B-pillar as shown in figure #1 below. Extract all webbing from the retractor's spool so the identification label at the base of the webbing is exposed as shown in figure #2. Replace all suspect units that have a six digit build code date of "494021" printed on this label. If the date code on the label is not readable due to damage or contamination, follow directions below for replacement. Should the identification label have any other build code date than that specified above, the unit is not suspect and does not require replacement. Replace the trim panel. Follow the instructions on page #1 for reimbursement.



"Replacement Instructions"

If the inspection above identifies a suspect retractor with a six digit build code date of "494021", replacement of the front seatbelt retractor is required. Follow instructions in Workshop Manual, SECTION 501-20A: Occupant Restraints.

Number 04V09 Vendor FSA Notice Date: August 12, 2004	1997 – 2003 Ford Escort and Mercury Tracer Vehicles Service Seat Belt Assembly
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Questions?	Call: Kris Farmer at TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Inc. (800) 393-6043
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Polaris Sales Inc.
2100 Hwy. 55
Medina, Minnesota 55340
Phone: 763-542-0500
FAX: 763-542-0599



THE NEW AMERICAN MOTORCYCLE™

Warning and Recall Notice 03V-336

August 18, 2004

Dear Victory Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Highway Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

In November of 2003 the Victory Motorcycle Division of Polaris Industries Inc. began a Safety Recall Campaign to address unexpected sidestand deployment on all 1999-2001 Victory motorcycles. A previous letter (enclosed) was mailed to owners of record announcing this recall campaign.

This letter is to inform you that parts are now available to complete repairs on your motorcycle. All authorized Victory dealers have been issued a Safety Recall Bulletin (V-03-05) that contains parts ordering information. Please contact your authorized Victory dealer at your earliest convenience to schedule an appointment to have this warranty repair performed. Your dealer will order the required parts for your motorcycle when you schedule your appointment.

The sidestand repair related to this Safety Recall will be performed free of charge. You may choose to have other service work or maintenance performed at the same time at your own expense.

If you have paid to have a sidestand related condition repaired prior to receiving this notice, you may be eligible to receive reimbursement. A reimbursement form with instructions for filing a claim can be requested by calling Polaris Customer Service at 763-417-8650.

Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may cause you.

If you believe that the Victory Motorcycle Division of Polaris Industries Inc. has failed to remedy this defect without charge or is unable to do so within a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at 400 Seventh Street S.W., Washington D.C. 20590 or call the toll-free safety hotline at 1-888-327-4236.

Sincerely,

VICTORY MOTORCYCLE DIVISION OF POLARIS
INDUSTRIES INC.

Karl Iverslie

Manager, Technical Service & Warranty

Federal law requires that any vehicle owner receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within 10 days. If you are no longer the owner of the Victory motorcycle indicated by this letter, please contact our Consumer Service Department @ 763-417-8650 so we may update our records. Or write to us at:
Polaris Industries, Inc.
Consumer Service Department
2100 Highway 55
Medina, MN 55340-9800

REF: V0305

Polaris Sales Inc.
2100 Hwy. 55
Medina, Minnesota 55340
Phone: 763-542-0500
FAX: 763-542-0599



THE NEW AMERICAN MOTORCYCLE

Warning and Recall Notice 03V-336

November 11, 2003

Dear Victory Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

vehicle safety exists in all 1999-2001 model year Victory motorcycles. Our records indicate that you own one of the potentially affected vehicles.

The sidestand spring and/or pin used to attach the sidestand spring to the frame may be damaged by contact with the ground or other surface. Damage could occur if the vehicle bottoms out, or if the vehicle is moved up or down a steep ramp. You may not be aware of damage to the spring or spring pin, and either one could fail while the vehicle is in operation. If this occurs, the sidestand could deploy unexpectedly, potentially leading to a loss of control, which could result in a crash.

Victory has designed a part that will be much less vulnerable to damage, however, it is not yet available. We will notify you again by mail as soon as this new part becomes available.

In the meantime, there are steps you can take to protect yourself. First, take a close look at the spring and pin on your bike (see photo below). If the spring is visibly damaged or has lost tension, contact your dealer for a free replacement. If the pin is bent, broken, or otherwise damaged, you should contact your dealer.

Second, avoid riding or transporting your motorcycle in any way that may damage the spring or pin.

Third, if the sidestand does deploy while you are riding, move safely to the side of the road. Avoid any sudden changes in direction or speed. Any left turns should be executed as slowly as safety permits. Do not operate the motorcycle with the sidestand deployed.

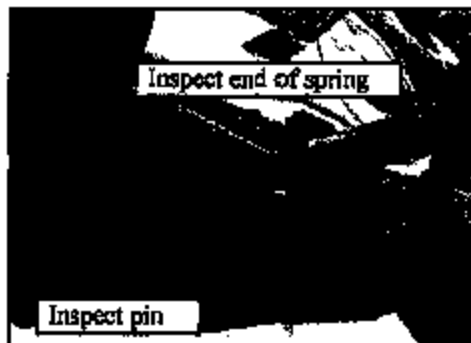
Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Sincerely,

VICTORY MOTORCYCLE DIVISION OF POLARIS
INDUSTRIES INC.

Karl Iverslie

Manager, Technical Service & Warranty



View from beneath sidestand mount (left side)

If you are no longer the owner of the Victory motorcycle indicated by this letter, please contact our Consumer Service Department @ 763-417-8880 so we may update our records. Or write to us at:

Polaris Industries, Inc.
Consumer Service Department
2100 Highway 55
Medina, MN 55340-9982

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within 10 days.

REF: V0305