

Ford Motor Company

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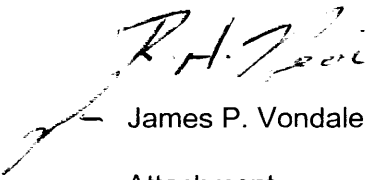
Subject: Ford Recall No. 05S32– Model Year 2003 through 2004 and certain Model Year 2005 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor (CVPI) and Commercial Heavy Duty (Taxi) – dash outer sound insulator

Summary

- Ford Action -- Ford Motor Company (Ford) is conducting a voluntary safety recall involving 2003 through 2004 and certain 2005 model year Crown Victoria Police Interceptor (CVPI) and Commercial Heavy Duty (Taxi) vehicles to replace a portion of the dash outer sound insulator.
- Number of Vehicles Involved -- There are approximately 132,800 vehicles in the United States and Federalized Territories.
- Affect on Vehicle Operation -- At the extremely high operating temperatures typical in police and taxi drive cycles, the dash outer sound insulator could sag and possibly contact the surface of the light-off catalyst. If this occurs, the insulator might experience charring of the outer layer, burning odor, or smoke which may ultimately result in a fire.
- Service Procedure -- Owners will be instructed to take their vehicles to a Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer to have a portion of the dash outer sound insulator replaced.

Attached is the detailed information required by the applicable portions of 49 CFR Part 573 -- Defect and Non-Compliance Information Report.

Sincerely,



James P. Vondale

Attachment



49 CFR Part 573 -- DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT
05S32 -- 2003 THROUGH 2004 AND CERTAIN 2005 MODEL YEAR
FORD CROWN VICTORIA POLICE AND HEAVY DUTY (TAXI) VEHICLES

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Ford Motor Company (Ford) submits the following information concerning a safety recall action that it is voluntarily initiating.

573.6 (c) (2) -- Potentially Affected Vehicles

Vehicles potentially affected are model year 2003 through 2004 and certain model year 2005 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor (CVPI) and Commercial Heavy Duty (Taxi) vehicles built at the St. Thomas Assembly Plant from March 26, 2002, through December 14, 2004, as identified by specific Vehicle Identification Numbers (VINs).

Because these vehicles are not produced in VIN order, information as to the applicability of this action to specific vehicles can best be obtained by either calling Ford's toll-free line (1-800-392-3673) or by contacting a local Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer who can obtain specific information regarding the vehicles from the Ford On-line Automotive Service Information System (OASIS) database.

573.6 (c) (3) -- Estimated Population of Vehicles Potentially Affected

There are approximately 132,800 potentially affected vehicles in the United States and Federalized Territories.

573.6 (c) (4) -- Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Defect Condition

Unknown.

573.6 (c) (5) -- Description of the Defect

At the extremely high operating temperatures typical in police and taxi drive cycles, the dash outer sound insulator could sag and possibly contact the surface of the light-off catalyst. If this occurs, the insulator might experience charring of the outer layer, burning odor, or smoke which may ultimately result in a fire.

573.6 (c) (6) -- Chronology of Events

On October 14, 2004, the Ford Critical Concern Review Group became aware of reports alleging that the dash outer sound insulator on police and taxi vehicles may have come in contact with the light-off catalyst(s). From November 2004 through January 2005, engineering conducted tests in an effort to duplicate the alleged incidents to gain a better understanding of the effect on the insulator in the extreme heat environment of these vehicles. Ford also conducted field audits of vehicles in February and March 2005 involved in alleged charring, smoke and/or fire potentially related to this condition. As a result of the information gained by these actions a Technical Review meeting was held in April 2005, and a recommendation was made to the Ford Field Review Committee to approve a field action to replace a section of the dash outer sound insulator on the affected vehicles.

573.6 (c) (8) -- Service Program

Dealers will be instructed to remove a section of the dash outer sound insulator above the light-off catalysts and replace that portion with a redesigned insulating material that has an aluminum outer layer and a full adhesive backing. Mailing of owner notification letters will begin on June 21, 2005 and be completed on or before June 22, 2005.

There will be no charge to owners for this service. Ford's general reimbursement plan for the cost of remedies paid for by vehicle owners prior to notification of a safety recall was provided to the agency on February 28, 2003.

573.6 (c) (9) -- Press statement and Dealer/Owner Letters

Ford does not at this time plan to make a statement to the media concerning the subject matter of this action. A copy of the Notification letters to dealers and owners from Ford will be forwarded to the agency when available.

573.6(c) (11) -- Recall Number

Ford has assigned recall number 05S32 to this action.

573.13 (c) (2) - Ending Date for Reimbursement Eligibility

The ending date for reimbursement eligibility for cost of remedies paid for by vehicle owners per Ford's general reimbursement plan is July 1, 2005.