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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

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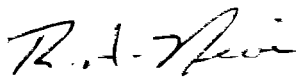
Subject: Ford Recall No. 05S41- Certain 2006 Model Year Ford Low Cab Forward Medium Duty Chassis Cab vehicles cab ingress/egress step reinforcement.

Summary

- Ford Action -- Ford is conducting a voluntary safety recall involving certain 2006 model year Ford Low Cab Forward (LCF) Medium Duty Chassis Cab vehicles to add a steel reinforcement to the cab ingress/egress step.
- Number of Vehicles Involved – Approximately 2,488 vehicles in the United States and Federalized Territories.
- Effect on Vehicle Operation – The supplier of the passenger cab ingress/egress step manufactured steps that do not consistently meet the specified strength requirements. As a result, some passenger cab ingress/egress steps may fracture and/or separate from the vehicle when a person loads the step. If a step fractures and/or separates from the vehicle there may be no warning to the operator and/or passenger.
- Service Procedure – Owners will be notified and instructed to take their vehicles to a Ford dealer to have a steel reinforcement added to the driver and passenger side ingress/egress cab step.

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
05S41 -- 2006 MODEL YEAR FORD LOW CAB FORWARD MEDIUM DUTY CHASSIS CAB
VEHICLES -- CAB INGRESS/EGRESS STEP REINFORCEMENT

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Ford Motor Company 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 certain 2006 model year Ford Low Cab Forward Medium Duty Chassis Cab vehicles built at the Escobedo Assembly Plant (EAP) from August 2, 2004 through September 28, 2005.

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 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

Approximately 2,488 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

The supplier of the passenger cab ingress/egress step manufactured steps that do not consistently meet the specified strength requirements. As a result, some passenger cab ingress/egress steps may fracture and/or separate from the vehicle when a person loads the step. If a step fractures and/or separates from the vehicle there may be no warning to the operator and/or passenger. As of October 27, 2005 Ford is aware of three field reports on Ford vehicles related to this condition, with one report alleging that an operator received a bruise.

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

On September 28, 2005 International, Ford's Blue Diamond joint venture partner for LCF medium duty chassis cabs, issued a stop ship for the passenger cab ingress/egress step for fracturing/separating from the vehicle and notified Ford. International conducted reviews of supplier manufacturing processes and tested various production samples to determine the step strength. Testing, completed on October 7, 2005, determined that the tensile strength varied and that some steps as manufactured may not meet the strength requirements as specified on the drawing. On October 13, 2005 Ford's Critical Concern Review Group (CCRG) was notified. An analysis of supplier manufacturing data was conducted and it was determined that installation of steps that may not meet the strength requirements began in vehicle production on August 2, 2004.

573.6 (c) (8) -- Service Program

Owners will be notified and instructed to take their vehicles to a Ford dealer to have a steel reinforcement added to the driver and passenger ingress/egress cab step. There will be no charge to owners for this service.

Mailing of owner notification letters will begin November 28, 2005 and be completed on November 28, 2005. Notification to Dealers will begin on November 15, 2005 and be completed on November 15, 2005.

In accordance with Part 573.13 (d)(1), Ford is excluding reimbursement for costs incurred by owners for repair of this problem because Ford's original warranty program would provide for a free repair for this concern for customers.

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 05S41 to this action.