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06V-033 (4 pages)

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Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20590

Subject: Ford Recall No. 06C11~ 2006 model year F-150 and Mark LT pick up trucks,

Summary

- Ford Action Ford is conducting a voluntary compliance recall involving 2006 model year F-150 and Mark LT pick up trucks for a re-flash of the instrument cluster software.
- Number of Vehicles Involved Approximately 211,432 vehicles in the United States and Federalized Territories.
- Description of Non-Compliance FMVSS 135 Section S5.5.1 (Activation) states. "An indicator shall be activated when the ignition (start) switch is in the 'on' ('run') position and whenever any of the conditions (a) through (g)." Section S5.5.1 (3) (b) requires that the malfunction indicator for "any electrical functional failure in an antilock or variable proportioning system" be illuminated. In addition, section 5.5.3 (Duration) states: "Each indicator activated due to a condition specified in S5.5.1 shall remain activated as long as the condition exists, whenever the ignition ("start") switch is in the "on" ("run") position, whether or not the engine is running."

FMVSS 105 (which is applicable to certain 2006 F-150 vehicles) has similar requirements in the following sections: S5.3.1 (Activation), S5.3.1 (c) (malfunction), and S5.3.3 (a) (Duration).

In the affected vehicles the ABS telltale will properly illuminate to warn the driver of an ABS system malfunction during the first key cycle when the malfunction occurs. However, on subsequent key cycles the telltale may only complete the bulb prove-out but will not remain illuminated if the ABS malfunction involves complete loss of electrical power to the ABS module. For an ABS malfunction other than a complete loss of electrical power to the module, the telltale will operate properly. Ford has not identified any reports for this condition on vehicles in customer service as of January 30, 2006. Ford considers a complete loss of electrical power to the module to be a rare event.

• <u>Service Program</u> - Owners will be notified and instructed to take their vehicles to a Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer to have the instrument cluster program re-flashed with the corrected program.

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

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Attachment

49 CFR Part 573 - NON-COMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT 06C11 - 2006 Model Year Ford F-150 AND MARK LT PICK UP TRUCKS

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 potential noncompliance to the requirements of sections S5.5.1, S5.5.1 (3) (b) and S5.5.3 of FMVSS 135 and sections S5.3.1, S5.3.1(c) and S5.3.3 (a) of FMVSS 105 on 2006 model year F-150 and Mark LT pick up trucks.

573.6 (c) (2) - Potentially Affected Vehicles

2006 model year F-150 and Mark LT pick up trucks built from March 29, 2005 through December 13, 2005 at the Norfolk Assembly Plant (NAP), April 11, 2005 through December 13, 2005 at the Kansas City Assembly Plant (KCAP) and November 18, 2004 through December 13, 2005 at the Dearborn Truck Plant (DTP) are potentially affected.

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 211,432 vehicles in the United States and Federalized Territories.

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

100%

573.6 (c) (5) -- Description of Non-Compliance:

FMVSS 135 Section S5.5.1 (Activation) states. "An indicator shall be activated when the ignition (start) switch is in the 'on' ('run') position and whenever any of the conditions (a) through (g)." Section S5.5.1 (3) (b) requires that the malfunction indicator for "any electrical functional failure in an antilock or variable proportioning system" be illuminated. In addition, section 5.5.3 (Duration) states: "Each indicator activated due to a condition specified in S5.5.1 shall remain activated as long as the condition exists, whenever the ignition ("start") switch is in the "on" ("run") position, whether or not the engine is running."

FMVSS 105 (which is applicable to certain 2006 F-150 vehicles) has similar requirements in the following sections: S5.3.1 (Activation), S5.3.1 (c) (malfunction), and S5.3.3 (a) (Duration).

In the affected vehicles the ABS telltale will properly illuminate to warn the driver of an ABS system malfunction during the first key cycle when the malfunction occurs. However, on subsequent key cycles the telltale may only complete the bulb prove-out but will not remain

illuminated if the ABS malfunction involves complete loss of electrical power to the ABS module. For an ABS malfunction other than a complete loss of electrical power to the module, the telltale will operate properly. Ford has not identified any reports for this condition on vehicles in customer service as of January 30, 2006. Ford considers a complete loss of electrical power to the module to be a rare event.

573.6 (c) (7) -- Basis of Non-Compliance Determination

On December 12, 2005 Ford was notified by the instrument cluster supplier that 2006 model year F-150 and Mark LT clusters may have a configuration error in the soft ware such that the ABS telltale may not properly illuminate when given a signal from the ABS module. On December 13, 2005 a stop ship was initiated at the assembly plants. An investigation was conducted, including reviews of vehicles, production records, testing and a review of the regulatory requirements. Ford determined, based on the information gathered through this investigation, that the conditions for the illumination of the malfunction indicator (telltale) did not meet the requirements of FMVSS135 and FMVSS105.

573,6 (c) (8) Service Program

Owners will be notified and instructed to take their vehicles to a Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer to have the instrument cluster program re-flashed with the corrected program.

There will be no charge to owners for this service. Mailing of owner notification letters will begin February 15, 2006 and be completed by February 15, 2006.

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) (11) -- Press statement and Dealer/Owner Letters

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

573.6 (c) (12) - Recall Number

Ford has assigned recall number 06C11 to this action.