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RECALL MANAGEMENT DIVISION



07V-278  
(3 Pages)

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June 20, 2007

Mr. Daniel C. Smith  
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

Subject: Ford Motor Company (Ford) Recall No. 07S55 - Certain 2007 Model Year Ford F-150 Trucks Fuel Tanks.

Summary

Ford Action - Ford is conducting a voluntary safety recall involving certain 2007 model year Ford F-150 trucks with 26 gallon fuel tanks to replace the tank.

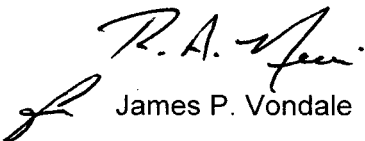
- Number of Vehicles Involved - 203 vehicles in the United States and federalized territories.
- Effect on Vehicle Operation - The fuel tank supplier may have produced a limited number of fuel tanks with localized depressions in the fuel tank wall at the seam between the top and bottom halves of the tank. If the depression is large enough, fuel may permeate the fuel tank wall resulting in a fuel odor, MIL illumination or a fuel leak. Ford is not aware of any field reports for this condition.

Ford can identify by VIN the specific vehicles on which the suspect tanks were installed and is conducting a voluntary program to replace the fuel tank in each affected vehicle.

- Service Procedure - Owners will be instructed to take their vehicles to a Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer to have the fuel tank 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

Attachments



49 CFR Part 573 -- DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT  
07S55 -- CERTAIN 2007 MODEL YEAR FORD F-150 TRUCK VEHICLES

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 2007 model year Ford F-150 trucks built at the Norfolk Assembly Plant (NAP) from May 29, 2007, through June 7, 2007.

Because Ford vehicles are not produced in VIN order, we typically cannot provide VIN specific information. However, in this instance Ford is able to provide the specific VIN list - see Attachment II.

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

Approximately 203 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 fuel tank supplier may have produced a limited number of fuel tanks with localized depressions in the fuel tank wall at the seam between the top and bottom halves of the tank. If the depression is large enough, fuel may permeate the fuel tank wall resulting in a fuel odor, MIL illumination or a fuel leak. Ford is not aware of any field reports for this condition.

573.6 (c) (6) - Chronology of Events

On June 7, 2007, an F-150 vehicle did not pass the End of Line (EoL) Emissions EVAP monitor test at the Norfolk Assembly Plant. An analysis of the fuel tank was conducted by the supplier who determined that there was a depression in the seam weld. Supplier analysis of production data indicated the tank was produced on May 22, 2007. An inspection of trucks with fuel tanks built on May 22, 2007, found two additional tanks with a substantial depression at the weld seam. The supplier completed analysis of the production process and determined that the monitor device of the surface temperature of the weld flange had malfunctioned resulting in erratic control of the bonding temperature. Tanks produced during this time period may have been exposed to lower than normal heat creating the potential for a depression at the weld seam. Further review determined the supplier had held and scrapped tanks from this production run. However, 203 suspect tanks were installed in vehicles and shipped to Ford dealers.

573.6 (c) (8) - Service Program

Owners will be instructed take their vehicles to a Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer to have the fuel tank replaced. There will be no charge to owners for this service.

Mailing of all owner notification letters will occur on June 25, 2007. Notification to all dealers did occur on June 15, 2007. A copy of the notification letters to dealers and owners will be forwarded to the agency when available.

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 at this time plan to make a statement to the media concerning the subject matter of this action.

573.6 (c) (12) - Recall Number

Ford has assigned recall number 07S55 to this action.