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May 21, 2010

Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W45-231
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

Subject: Ford Motor Company (Ford) Recall No. 10C12 - Certain 2010 Model Year Ford Fusion, Ford Escape and Mercury Milan Vehicles - Automatic Transmission Park Rod Guide Retention Pin

Summary

- Ford Action - Ford is conducting a voluntary compliance recall involving certain 2010 model year Ford Fusion, Ford Escape and Mercury Milan vehicles to inspect the automatic transmission park rod guide and retention pin, and, if necessary, repair.
- Number of Vehicles Involved - Approximately 19 vehicles in the United States and federalized territories.
- Description of Non-Compliance - The park rod guide retention pin may not have been properly installed on 19 automatic transmissions (A/T) shipped to Hermosillo Stamping and Assembly Plant or Kansas City Assembly Plant. If the pin is not properly installed, the park rod guide may become displaced, preventing the transmission park pawl from engaging when shifted into Park, potentially allowing vehicle movement greater than that allowed by FMVSS 114 Section S5.2.5.
- Service Program - Ford notified affected dealers to stop demonstrating or delivering the affected vehicles until inspections are performed on the transmissions and repairs are made as appropriate. Ford will notify owners and instruct them to take their vehicles to a Ford or Lincoln/Mercury dealer for transmission inspection and, if necessary, repair.

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 - NON-COMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT
10C12 - 2010 MODEL YEAR FORD FUSION, FORD ESCAPE AND
MERCURY MILAN AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION PARK ROD GUIDE RETENTION PIN

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Non-Compliance Reports, Ford Motor Company (Ford) submits the following information concerning a potential noncompliance to the requirements of Section S5.2.5 of FMVSS 114 for certain 2010 Model Year Ford Fusion, Ford Escape and Mercury Milan vehicles.

573.6 (c) (2) - Potentially Affected Vehicles

Certain Fusion, Escape, and Milan vehicles built from February 27, 2010 through March 26, 2010 at the Hermosillo Stamping and Assembly Plant or Kansas City Assembly Plant are potentially affected.

Because these potentially affected transmissions can be traced to specific vehicles, 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 19 vehicles in the United States and federalized territories.

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

Unknown.

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

The park rod guide retention pin may not have been properly installed on 19 automatic transmissions (A/T) shipped to Hermosillo Stamping and Assembly Plant or Kansas City Assembly Plant. If the pin is not properly installed, the park rod guide may become displaced, preventing the transmission park pawl from engaging when shifted into Park, potentially allowing vehicle movement greater than that allowed by FMVSS 114 Section S5.2.5.

As of May 13, 2010 there are no known reports of accidents or injuries attributed to this condition.

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

On March 29, 2010, Ford was notified by a dealer that a 2010 model year Escape vehicle arrived from the transportation carrier with the park function of the transmission inoperative. Subsequent investigation found that the park rod guide and its retaining pin were missing. The transmission build history for this unit did not contain a confirmation that the process verification check for the retention pin was performed. A review of the build histories of those transmissions manufactured using this assembly process identified 18 other units installed into vehicles in the U.S. that did not contain this confirmation.

573.6 (c) (8) - Service Program

Ford notified affected dealers to stop demonstrating or delivering the affected vehicles until inspections are performed on the transmissions and repairs are made as appropriate. Ford will notify owners and instruct them to take their vehicles to a Ford or Lincoln/Mercury dealer for transmission inspection and, if necessary, repair. There will be no charge to owners for this service.

Mailing of owner notification letters will occur on May 28, 2010. Notification to Dealers occurred on May 19, 2010.

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

National media attention is likely as with most Ford recalls. Ford will provide public comments when requested. A news release will not be issued. 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 10C12 to this action.

VINS for 10C12

1FMCU9D72AKC28547
3FAHP0HG2AR333839
1FMCU0D72AKC43187
3FAHP0HAXAR335852
1FMCU0E73AKC48610
3FAHP0HA8AR343562
3FAHP0HA5AR327304
3FAHP0HA8AR340595
1FMCU9EG1AKC52692
3FAHP0HA3AR341153
3MEHM0JG3AR659175
3FAHP0HA2AR349566
3FAHP0HG1AR345576
1FMCU0D73AKC51220
1FMCU9DG1AKC48174
1FMCU9DG0AKC52328
3FAHP0HAXAR345734
3FAHP0HA5AR345544
1FMCU9EGXAKC49841