

Safety Recall 11S16 - Supplement #7

Certain 1999-2003 Model Year Windstar Vehicles Operated in Corrosion States
Subframe Front Lower Control Arm Rear Attaching Flanges and Rear Body Mount Attachments
Inspection and Repair

DEALER Q & A**Q1. What is the problem?**

A. Ford is voluntarily recalling 1999-2003 Model Year Windstar vehicles to address concerns relating to subframe corrosion. In some of the affected vehicles, a front subframe lower control arm (LCA) rear attaching flange or rear body mount could separate from the vehicle subframe after operating in high corrosion areas (where salt is used on the roadways during winter months) for an extended period of time. Separation of one LCA attachment or both rear body mounts may result in a loss of vehicle directional control, increasing the risk of a crash.

Q2. Why are you only recalling vehicles in corrosion states?

A. The affected vehicles have been on the road for a number of years and, in many cases, have been driven well over 100,000 miles. The overwhelming majority of reports of subframe corrosion are from high-corrosion states. We will continue to monitor the performance of vehicles in all states as we always do.

Q3. What should I do if an owner believes their vehicle has been operated in a high corrosion environment and requests their vehicle be inspected?

A. If the vehicle is not in the program, but is a 1999 through 2003 model year Windstar, contact the Special Service Support Center at 1-800-325-5621 to request approval to be covered by Safety Recall 11S16.

Q4. The 1998-model Windstar was part of the 10S13 rear axle recall. Why are they excluded?

A. 1998 model year and earlier Windstar minivans use a different subframe from the 1999-2003 model year Windstar vehicles and are not part of this Safety Recall 11S16.

Q5. Do I need prior approval to initiate a rental vehicle for a customer?

A. Dealers are empowered to initiate rentals for customers within the following guidelines:
Reinforcement Bracket Installation: Ford will pay for up to 1 day of vehicle rental if needed, except for fuel, while the vehicle is at the dealership for reinforcement bracket installation.
Subframe Replacement: Ford will pay for up to 2 days of vehicle rental if needed, except for fuel, while the vehicle is at the dealership for subframe replacement.
Any rental expenses incurred beyond these guidelines will require approval from the SSSC.

Q6. How will customers with unique transportation issues (handicap or other extenuating circumstances) be handled?

A. Dealers should contact the Special Service Support Center at 1-800-325-5621 for assistance.

Q7. After the Metal Bonding Adhesive and the Anti-Corrosion Coating is applied, can the vehicle be taken off the hoist?

A. If bracket installation for Safety Recall 10S13 Rear Axle Inspection and Repair is being performed at the same time, then the vehicle must remain on the hoist since the adhesive needs time to cure before load can be placed on the axle. If bracket installation for Safety Recall 10S13 is not being performed along with 11S16, then the vehicle can be removed from the hoist.

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- Q8. What is the consistency of the Metal Bonding Adhesive supposed to be like once it has fully cured?**
- A. The adhesive will be hard but not brittle. It will be softer than body filler. Also, if Anti-Corrosion Coating is not applied immediately, the surface of the adhesive will react with oxygen as it cures and form a tacky film over the surface of the adhesive. This tacky surface may lead a person, who is not familiar with this product, to believe that the adhesive is not curing properly.
- Q9. What is the minimum temperature (vs. time) that will allow the Metal Bonding Adhesive to cure properly?**
- A. If the shop temperature is lower than 16°C (60° F), the adhesive will need to cure overnight.
- Q10. Where can I find more information about the adhesive and the PM-13-A Anti-Corrosion Coating?**
- A. Access the following web sites and review the MSDS sheets.
- For the adhesive go to: <http://www.lord.com/Products-And-Solutions/Adhesives/Metal-Bonding.xml/143/6> and look up the MSDS sheet for metal bonding adhesive 108B.
 - For PM-13-A go to: <http://www.fcsdchemicalsandlubricants.com/main/product.asp?product=Anti-CorrosionCoating&category=Collision and Body Repair>