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Steve M. Kenner, Global Director
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Dearborn, MI 48126-2738

August 4, 2014

Ms. Nancy Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W45-306
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Subject: Ford Motor Company (Ford) Safety Recall #14S15 - Certain 2015 Model Year Transit Vehicles – Rear Caliper Brake Hose Leak

In accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Non-compliance Information Reports, please find the applicable information regarding Ford Motor Company's voluntary safety recall #14S15.

Sincerely,


for Steven M. Kenner
Attachment

49 CFR Part 573 – DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT
SAFETY RECALL #14S15: CERTAIN 2015 MODEL YEAR TRANSIT VANS VEHICLES –
REAR CALIPER BRAKE HOSE LEAK

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Non-Compliance 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 2015 model year Transit vehicles built at the Kansas City Assembly Plant (KCAP) between April 3, 2014, and May 27, 2014.

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 (1-866-436-7332), clicking on the "Safety Recalls" link at <http://www.ford.com>, or by contacting a local Ford or Lincoln 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 1,290 vehicles in the United States and federalized territories are potentially affected.

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

Unknown.

573.6 (c) (5) – Description of the Defect

Some of the affected vehicles may develop a brake fluid leak at the rear caliper brake hose joint.

A brake fluid leak that is not repaired will eventually result in illumination of the red brake warning lamp and display the message "Brake Fluid Level Low - Service Now" in the cluster. In addition, longer brake pedal travel for a given apply force and extended stopping distance may be experienced. In the unlikely event that both circuits leak simultaneously on the same vehicle, a complete loss of service brake effectiveness could eventually occur. Reduction of service brake effectiveness and extended stopping distance can increase the risk of an accident.

No accidents or injuries have been reported in the field to date as a result of the subject condition.

573.6 (c) (6) – Chronology of Events

On June 23, 2014, brake fluid leaks at the joint of the brake hose to the rear brake caliper were found at KCAP, and a low speed accident occurred while a plant employee was moving a vehicle in a KCAP vehicle storage lot. The vehicle involved in the accident had leaks in both rear brake calipers joints and the red warning lamp was illuminated on the dash at the time of the accident. This vehicle had received an in-plant repair on the rear caliper brake hose joints prior to this report.

On July 10, 2014, this issue was reviewed by Ford's Critical Concern Review Group. A subsequent review of field data identified three vehicles that were found with a brake fluid leak on one of the joints prior to sale to a customer. Based on a review of the in-plant repair procedure used at KCAP, during which the sealing washers were re-used, and the three identified field reports, Engineering could not guarantee that other vehicles that had undergone the same in-plant repair might not also develop rear brake caliper fluid leaks at the hose joints.

On July 28, 2014, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed this concern and approved a safety field action.

573.6 (c) (8) – Service Program

Dealers will replace the sealing washers on both rear brake caliper to brake hose joints. There will be no charge to owners for this service.

Dealers will be notified on August 5, 2014. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to occur the week of August 18, 2014.

In accordance with Part 573.13(d)(1), Ford is excluding reimbursement for costs incurred by owners for repair of this concern 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 when posted to NHTSA's safecar.gov website. Ford will provide public comments when requested. A news release will not be issued.

Ford will forward a copy of the notification letters to dealers and owners to the agency when available.

573.6 (c) (11) – Recall Number

Ford has assigned recall number 14S15 to this action.

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