



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 9, 2015

Mr. Todd Fronckowiak
Assistant Director, Global Automotive Safety Compliance
Ford Motor Company
Fairlane Plaza South, Suite #500
330 Town Center Drive
Dearborn, MI 48126-2738

NVS-215SM
15V-606

Subject: Rebuilt Transmission Shift Lever May Disengage

Dear Mr. Fronckowiak:

This letter serves to acknowledge Ford Motor Company's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

FORD/ESCAPE/2001-2008
MERCURY/MARINER/2001-2008

Mfr's Report Date: September 28, 2015

NHTSA Campaign Number: 15V-606

Components:

POWER TRAIN:AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION:GEAR POSITION INDICATION (PRNDL)
POWER TRAIN:AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION:LEVER AND LINKAGE:FLOOR SHIFT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 57

Problem Description:

Ford Motor Company (Ford) is recalling certain model year 2001-2008 Ford Escape and Mercury Mariner vehicles manufactured March 31, 2001, to September 1, 2009. The affected vehicles are equipped with either a 2.3L or 3.0L engine and have had their CD4E transmission replaced with a remanufactured one that was rebuilt between June 11, 2015 and July 15, 2015. These service repair part transmissions have a shift lever bolt properly that may not be tightened. As a result, the shift control lever could disengage from the transmission without warning.

Consequence:

If the shift lever disengages from the transmission, a driver may be unable to shift gear positions and the indicated shift position may not represent the gear position the vehicle is in. Should a disengagement occur while the vehicle is being driven, when the driver goes to stop and park the vehicle, the gear selection indicator may show that the transmission is in the "PARK" position, but the vehicle transmission may not actually be in the "PARK" gear position. If the vehicle is not in the "PARK" position there is a risk the vehicle will roll away as the driver and other occupants exit the vehicle or anytime thereafter. A vehicle rollaway increases the risk of injury to exiting occupants and bystanders.

Remedy:

Ford will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the transmissions and either tighten the manual shift lever bolt or replace the manual

shift lever assembly. These repairs will be performed free of charge. The recall is expected to begin October 19, 2015. Owners may contact Ford customer service at 1-866-436-7332. Ford's number for this recall is 15S28.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

NHTSA has received Ford's draft owner notification letter and approved it for distribution.


Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Sarah Mcshane who may be reached by phone at 202-366-7401, or by email at sarah.mcshane@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations
Enforcement