

**Part 573 Safety Recall Report****15V-050****Manufacturer Name :** Ford Motor Company**Submission Date :** JAN 27,2015**NHTSA Recall No. :** 15V-050**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 15S03**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Ford Motor Company

Address : 330 Town Center Drive

Suite 500 Dearborn MI 48126-2738

Company phone : 1-866-436-7332

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 16,091

Estimated percentage with defect : 0

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle : 2014-2014 Ford Transit Connect

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

**Descriptive Information :** 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) 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.

Production Dates : NOV 06, 2013 - SEP 20, 2014

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs**Description of Defect :**

**Description of the Defect :** Affected Cargo Van vehicles are equipped with upper seat belt bolts that may have been improperly torqued. Seat belt anchorage fasteners that do not meet installation torque specifications may loosen over time in these vehicles, which could cause them to not function as intended, increasing the risk of injury in a crash.

**Description of the Safety Risk :** Seat belt anchorage fasteners that do not meet installation torque specifications may loosen over time in these vehicles, which could cause them to not function as intended, increasing the risk of injury in a crash.

Ford is not aware of any accidents or injuries related to this condition.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

**Supplier Identification :****Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR

Address : NR

FOREIGN STATES

Country : NR

**Chronology :**

Sept –Oct 2014: A routine process audit at the vehicle production facility found that an operator did not follow the approved and published process for upper seat belt “D-ring” fastener installation, which calls for use of a “clicker” torque wrench to finish the bolt installation to the specified torque. The issue was brought to Ford’s Critical Concern Review Group for further review. A subsequent audit of over 3000 vehicles was conducted, and lower than specified upper seat belt “D-ring” torque values were found on approximately 5% of vehicles the inspected.

Nov-Dec 2014: Reviews were conducted to evaluate the potential effect of under-torqued fasteners for the upper seat belt “D-ring”. It was also found that some of these same fasteners may have been over-torqued, rather than under-torqued.

On January 20, 2014, Ford’s Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field action.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : Dealers will remove the original seat belt fasteners and replace them with properly torqued fasteners.

In addition, cargo tie down fasteners that do not meet installation torque may also loosen over time, presenting a potential customer satisfaction issue. As part of the service remedy, dealers will also replace and properly torque the cargo tie down fasteners.

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.

Ford will upload a copy of the notification letters to dealers on NHTSA’s safecar.gov website when available.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

**Recall Schedule :**

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers will occur on January 27, 2015. Mailing of owner notification letters will begin on March 23, 2015 and is expected to be completed by March 27, 2015.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JAN 27, 2015 - JAN 27, 2015

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAR 23, 2015 - MAR 27, 2015

\* NR - Not Reported