

**Part 573 Safety Recall Report****15V-605****Manufacturer Name :** Ford Motor Company**Submission Date :** SEP 28,2015**NHTSA Recall No. :** 15V-605**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 15S26**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 : 203

Estimated percentage with defect : 0

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle : 2015-2015 Ford Taurus

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

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 : JUL 24, 2015 -JUL 24, 2015

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2015-2015 Lincoln MKS

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

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 : JUL 24, 2015 -JUL 24, 2015

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2016-2016 Ford Explorer

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

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 : JUL 24, 2015 - JUL 24, 2015

**VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range**

Begin : NR

End : NR

Not sequential VINs

**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : The fuel tank attachment bolts were under-torqued during fuel tank installation. The lower torque may result in insufficient clamp load that could lead to fatigue and fracture of the fuel tank straps. Fracture of the fuel tank straps could result in the fuel tank separating from the vehicle, which may result in a fuel leak.

Ford is not aware of any reports of accident, injury, or fire related to this condition.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : A fuel leak in the presence of an ignition source can lead to a fire.

Description of the Cause : A manufacturing trial was conducted using a sequence of two distinct operations (one automated, one manual) to achieve the required torque on the fuel tank attachment bolts. A subsequent production shift did not properly perform the two distinct operations, leaving the bolts partially torqued.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Loose or fractured fuel tank straps may cause noise.

**Supplier Identification :**

**Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

**Chronology :**

Late July 2015 – The “day” shift identified that the two-step trial process may not have been properly completed by the “evening” shift, potentially leaving the bolts partially torqued. A stop ship was implemented at Chicago Assembly Plant (CAP) to inspect vehicles built during the “evening” shift of July 24, 2015.

Early-Mid August 2015 – The audit of suspect vehicles held at CAP confirmed that the bolts were partially torqued. It was also confirmed, that a small number of vehicles were shipped prior to the stop ship being implemented at CAP. The initial assessment of the condition was that the partial torque in conjunction with the adhesive patch on the bolt would likely retain the fuel tank attachment bolts.

Late August – September 2015 – Further assessment was conducted to understand the durability of the joint with partially torqued bolts. This assessment identified a concern with the long term durability of the fuel tank attachment joints and fuel tank straps that could lead to fracture of the straps.

On September 21, 2015, Ford’s Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field action.

**Description of Remedy :**

Description of Remedy Program : Owners will be notified by mail and instructed to take their vehicle to a Ford or Lincoln dealer to have the fuel tank attachment bolts torqued to specification. There will be no charge for this service.

Ford is excluding reimbursement for costs because the original warranty program would provide for a free repair for this concern.

Ford will forward a copy of the notification letters to dealers to the agency 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 is expected to occur on September 28, 2015. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin October 19, 2015 and be completed by October 23, 2015.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : SEP 28, 2015 - SEP 28, 2015

Planned Owner Notification Date : OCT 19, 2015 - OCT 19, 2015

\* NR - Not Reported