

Ford Motor Company (Ford) Amendment to Recall 15V005 (14S30) – Certain 2014 Ford Transit Connect, Focus, Fiesta, Edge, and Escape vehicles – Fuel Pump Nickel Plating

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

February 2015: Ongoing analysis of warranty claim data identified an increase in fuel pump warranty for certain 2014 model year Focus and Fiesta vehicles. At the time of Ford's December 2014 field service action (14S30) pertaining to fuel pump performance on 2014 Escape and 2015 MKC vehicles, the Fuel Delivery Module (FDM) supplier for these indicated that the cause for fuel pump replacements in Focus and Fiesta vehicles was unrelated to the nickel plating issue that was the subject of that field service action.

March - April 2015: Analysis of fuel delivery modules (FDMs) from Focus/Fiesta complaint vehicles by the supplier found seized pumping chambers. Further analysis found a high phosphorous content, low nickel-plating thickness and low nickel-plating hardness, causing the pump to be more susceptible to a mechanical seizure between the nickel-plating components (cover and casing) and the impeller.

Concurrent with this analysis, on April 2, 2015, the FDM supplier submitted a Part 573 Defect Notification to NHTSA indicating that FDMs produced on certain dates for various vehicle manufacturers, including Ford, may contain contamination due to improper nickel plating of the inlet/outlet plate within the FDM that may cause excessive pump friction, potentially resulting in a no-start or stall condition.

Based on the information contained within the supplier's Defect Notification to the agency and subsequent discussions with the FDM supplier, it was determined that the supplier had delivered additional suspect FDMs to Ford that had not been identified as part of Ford's prior field service action. Consequently, additional suspect vehicle models and populations were identified based on supplier records.

April 20, 2015, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field action.

April 27, 2015, Ford filed 15S13 with NHTSA. In subsequent discussions with NHTSA on April 28-29, 2015, it was recommended to Ford to amend Recall 15V005 (14S30) with subsequent vehicles and volumes.