

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

17V-472

Manufacturer Name : Ford Motor Company**Submission Date :** JUL 25, 2017**NHTSA Recall No. :** 17V-472**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 17S17**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 : 94,605

Estimated percentage with defect : NR

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2015-2015 Lincoln MKC

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : N/A

Production Dates : MAY 11, 2014 - JUN 18, 2014

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2014-2015 Ford Escape

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : N/A

Production Dates : MAY 11, 2014 - JUN 18, 2014

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 3 : 2014-2014 Ford F-150

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : N/A

Production Dates : MAY 09, 2014 - JUN 15, 2014

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 4 : 2014-2014 Ford E-series

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Affected E-series vehicles are equipped with fourth row seating.

Production Dates : MAY 15, 2014 - JUN 24, 2014

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Improperly tempered bolts may have been used to install certain seats, seatbacks, seatbelt buckles, or seatbelt anchors on these vehicles. The potentially affected components (seat, seatback, or seatbelt) vary by vehicle model. An improperly tempered bolt could fracture and compromise the structural integrity of the seat or seatbelt system's performance in a sudden stop or crash.

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

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If a seat, seatback, or seatbelt anchor attaching bolt fractures, the structural integrity of the seat or the seatbelt system's performance may be compromised in a sudden stop or crash, increasing the risk of injury.

Description of the Cause : On April 17, 2014, the Tier-2 heat treat supplier experienced a power outage at their manufacturing facility. As a result, bolts in the tempering furnace at the time of the power outage may not have been properly tempered. Improperly tempered parts can result in a hardness level above specification and can lead to hydrogen embrittlement and/or stress corrosion.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Continental Midland Group

Address : 24000 Western Ave
Park Forest ILLINOIS 60466

Country : United States

Chronology :

February - April 2017

On February 16, 2017, a Ford employee reported that the right-hand second row seatbelt anchor attaching bolt fractured in his 2015 Model Year MKC vehicle. The fractured bolt was retrieved and provided to Ford Central Laboratories for analysis. This analysis identified that the fracture type was found to be intergranular and

initiated in a thread lap. The majority of microindentation hardness measurements taken along the surface of the bolt were found to be outside the hardness specification (340-430 HV). The concern was brought to Ford's Critical Concerns Review Group (CCRG) for review. Bolt supplier records were requested to investigate part usage and distribution.

May – June 2017

A third-party analysis of the MKC fractured bolt was conducted, confirming Ford's analysis that the bolt hardness was outside specification. The Tier-2 heat treatment supplier's investigation of their manufacturing records found that a power outage occurred on April 17, 2014. The bolts located in the tempering furnace during the power outage may not have been tempered properly. The Tier-2 supplier's production records showed that approximately 29,000 bolts, including the fractured bolt from the MKC vehicle, were in the tempering furnace when the power outage occurred. Subsequently, these bolts were mixed into a lot of approximately 154,000 pieces and shipped to various Ford Assembly Plants. Potentially affected vehicle models during this time period were identified and the respective bolt applications for each vehicle were reviewed. A search for additional reports from other potentially affected vehicles identified two additional reports of a second row seatbelt anchor attaching bolt fracturing on MKC vehicles. No related reports of fractured bolts were identified during the suspect time period on the other vehicle lines.

On July 17, 2017, 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 potentially affected bolts removed and replaced. 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 July 25, 2017. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin August 28, 2017 and is expected to be completed by September 1, 2017.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUL 25, 2017 - JUL 25, 2017

Planned Owner Notification Date : AUG 28, 2017 - SEP 01, 2017

* NR - Not Reported