

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 17V-526

**Manufacturer Name :** Ford Motor Company**Submission Date :** AUG 28, 2017**NHTSA Recall No. :** 17V-526**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 17C12**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 : 117,423

Estimated percentage with defect : 15 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2015-2017 Ford F-150

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : PICKUP TRUCK

Power Train : NR

**Descriptive Information :** Ford reviewed supplier process and maintenance records to determine the population of affected parts.

This issue affects the left rear Inflatable Seat Belt on Crew Cab body style vehicles

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 20, 2015 - JUN 16, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2017-2017 Ford F-250/350

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : PICKUP TRUCK

Power Train : NR

**Descriptive Information :** Ford's team reviewed supplier process and maintenance records to determine the population of affected parts.

This issue affects the left rear Inflatable Seat Belt on Crew Cab body style vehicles.

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 : OCT 20, 2015 - JUN 16, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

## Description of Noncompliance :

Description of the Noncompliance : Some rivets used to attach the Inflatable Seat Belt buckle assembly on the left rear seat to its mounting bracket may have inadequate rivet head thickness. A seat belt buckle assembly with an inadequate rivet may fail to comply with Section 5.2 of FMVSS 210.

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

FMVSS 1 : 210 - Seat belt assembly anchorages

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Inadequate rivet head thickness may allow separation of the left rear inflatable seat belt buckle from its mounting bracket during a crash, increasing the risk of injury.

Description of the Cause : The supplier made an unauthorized change to their measurement system for rivet height, resulting in the potential for some assemblies with inadequate rivet head thickness to be used for production.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None.

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : Takata

Address : 2500 Takata Drive

Auburn Hills MICHIGAN 48322

Country : United States

## Chronology :

June 2017: An issue concerning separation of the Rear Inflatable Seat Belt buckle from its anchor bracket during a supplier test was brought to Ford's Critical Concern Review Group (CCRG) for review. Engineering analysis found the failure potentially resulted from an inadequately formed rivet head. The CCRG requested a further review of the supplier's rivet forming processes.

July-August 2017: A review of supplier's process records found an unauthorized change was made to the measurement system used to validate the buckle joint to the bracket in July 2015. This revised measurement

system may not detect an inadequately formed rivet with insufficient head thickness. Insufficient rivet head thickness could compromise the structural integrity of the buckle attachment to the anchor bracket. Analysis of parts produced during this timeframe found variation in the rivet head thickness, including some with rivet joints that did not meet Ford's requirements.

On August 21, 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 the left rear seat belt buckle assembly rivet head thickness inspected. The seat belt buckle assembly will be replaced if the rivet is found to be inadequate. 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 :** The left rear seat belt buckle assembly rivet head thickness will be inspected, and if found to be inadequate the seat belt buckle assembly will be replaced with certified stock.

**Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** The supplier's rivet forming and measurement processes were corrected on June 16, 2017.

## Recall Schedule :

**Description of Recall Schedule :** Notification to dealers is expected to occur on August 29, 2017. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin October 16, 2017 and is expected to be completed by October 20, 2017.

**Planned Dealer Notification Date :** AUG 29, 2017 - AUG 29, 2017

**Planned Owner Notification Date :** OCT 16, 2017 - OCT 20, 2017

\* NR - Not Reported