

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

17V-803

Manufacturer Name : Ford Motor Company**Submission Date :** FEB 07, 2018**NHTSA Recall No. :** 17V-803**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 17S44**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 : 11,113

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2018-2018 Ford Escape

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The Ford process is capable of tracing suspect side air curtain production to the vehicle in which the side air curtain is installed. 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 13, 2017 -JAN 12, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : The side air curtain inflator installed in certain side air curtain modules may contain a subcomponent "top hat diffuser" that does not have the expected part geometry. A top hat diffuser that does not have the expected part geometry could lead to a detachment of the top hat diffuser if the vehicle is involved in a crash where supplemental side air curtains are deployed. If the inflator diffuser detaches during deployment, the side air curtain may not fully inflate and there is potential the diffuser could become a projectile in the passenger compartment.

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 : In the affected vehicles, the top hat diffuser on the side air curtain inflator may detach from the inflator during deployment and create a tear that could cause the side air curtain to not fully inflate and there is potential the diffuser could become a projectile in the passenger compartment, increasing the risk of injury in a crash.

Description of the Cause : The side air curtain supplier identified this concern during lot acceptance testing and informed Ford that the potential root cause was attributed to improper metal forming of the top hat diffuser.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Autoliv Americas

Address : 1320 Pacific Drive
Auburn Hills MICHIGAN 48326-1569

Country : United States

Chronology :

On November 28, 2017, the side air curtain supplier notified Ford of an inflator test anomaly that occurred during a lot acceptance test on November 16, 2017. The side air curtain supplier stated that the potential root cause was attributed to improper metal forming of the sub-supplier's top hat diffuser. The supplier's initial testing and analysis identified twelve suspect inflator lots built with top hat diffusers that may exhibit this condition. Subsequent testing and analyses by the supplier to assess the scope of the concern identified additional inflator lots with suspect top hat diffusers.

On December 11, 2017, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field action.

On January 31, 2018, the side air curtain supplier informed Ford that a population of suspect parts built within the previously identified date range but believed to have been contained by the supplier, were inadvertently shipped to Louisville Assembly Plant for vehicle production. This was discovered during the supplier's final reconciliation of quarantined stock. A total of 956 vehicles have been added to this 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 right hand and left hand side air curtains inspected to determine whether they are from the suspect population, and replaced if necessary. 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 : Recalled vehicles will be serviced with replacement side air curtain modules containing inflators produced from certified lots.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : All vehicles not included in this recall were built with inflators from certified lots.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers is expected to occur on December 19, 2017. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin January 29, 2018 and is expected to be completed by February 2, 2018.

Mailing of owner notification letters to the revised population is expected to begin February 26, 2018 and is expected to be completed by March 2, 2018.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : DEC 19, 2017 - DEC 19, 2017

Planned Owner Notification Date : JAN 29, 2018 - FEB 02, 2018

* NR - Not Reported