

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

18V-169

Manufacturer Name : Ford Motor Company

Submission Date : MAR 21, 2018

NHTSA Recall No. : 18V-169

Manufacturer Recall No. : 18S07



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 : 5,361

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2015-2016 Ford Focus

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Affected vehicles are equipped with the 1.0L Fox GTDI engine and B6 manual transmission.

Ford reviewed vehicle production records to determine the affected vehicle population. The Ford process is capable of tracing engine production to the vehicle in which the powertrain 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.

Four 2017 model year Focus vehicles were identified as having their clutch replaced in service with a suspect part and are included in this action.

Production Dates : JUL 21, 2014 - JUN 30, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2013-2014 Ford Fusion

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Affected vehicles are equipped with the 1.6L Sigma GTDI engine and B6 manual transmission.

Ford reviewed vehicle production records to determine the affected vehicle

population. The Ford process is capable of tracing engine production to the vehicle in which the powertrain 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 : MAR 09, 2012 - JUN 28, 2014

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Affected vehicles equipped with 1.0L Fox GTDI or 1.6L Sigma GTDI engines with B6 manual transmissions may experience clutch slip, potentially resulting in elevated system operating temperatures and clutch plate fracture. Breach of the clutch cover and transmission housing can subsequently occur, potentially leading to a leak of transmission fluid.

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

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Leaking of transmission fluid in the presence of an ignition source can lead to the risk of an engine compartment fire.

Description of the Cause : Repeated high energy clutch slip input can lead to premature clutch lining wear, reducing the mechanical properties of pressure plate material. Repeated cyclic heating and cooling events may cause cracks around the outer edge of the pressure plate. Torque capacity reduction due to clutch lining wear can cause excessive slip, introducing a large amount of energy and heat into the pressure plate. Structural failure or fracture of the pressure plate may eventually occur.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Clutch odor and smoke, and reduced vehicle performance, are indications of a potential clutch slip condition prior to pressure plate fracture.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

See attached.

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 for service. Focus vehicles will be updated with software that will detect and prevent prolonged clutch slip. Dealers will evaluate the clutch for wear and replace as needed. Fusion vehicles will be updated with a new clutch assembly. 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 : Software that detects and then prevents prolonged clutch slip will be installed on Focus vehicles. A new clutch assembly containing a clutch pressure plate material change will be installed on Fusion vehicles.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : In July 2016, a robustness change to increase the stiffness of the clutch spring was implemented to improve vehicle launch performance. The resulting higher clamp force to the clutch plate reduced the clutch slip energy and operating temperatures. Concurrently, the pressure plate supplier relocated pressure plate manufacturing from the U.K. to a facility in Italy, which may also contribute to the observed improvement in pressure plate performance in the field.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers is expected to occur on March 13, 2018. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin March 26, 2018 and is expected to be completed by March 30, 2018.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAR 13, 2018 - MAR 13, 2018

Planned Owner Notification Date : MAR 26, 2018 - MAR 30, 2018

* NR - Not Reported