

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 18V-845

**Manufacturer Name :** Ford Motor Company

**Submission Date :** NOV 28, 2018

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 18V-845

**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 :** 2,828

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 100 %

## Vehicle Information :

**Vehicle 1 :** 2016-2018 Ford Focus

**Vehicle Type :** LIGHT VEHICLES

**Body Style :** ALL

**Power Train :** GAS

**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.

**Production Dates :** JUN 30, 2016 - APR 25, 2018

**VIN Range 1 : Begin :**

NR

**End :** NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Affected vehicles equipped with 1.0L Fox 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, but Ford is aware of two reports of underhood fire on vehicles with similar transmissions in Europe.

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 :

Ford's Field Review Committee approved field action 18S07 (18V169) on March 5, 2018.

April – August 2018: Ford of Europe continued to monitor field data related to the subject vehicles.

September – October 2018: A review of field data identified two reports of clutch pressure plate damage on European vehicles, one equipped with a 1.5L and one equipped with a 1.0L engine and B6 manual transmission that were built after the timeframe for the previous field action. Subsequent Engineering investigation and testing identified an additional suspect population of vehicles built with clutch pressure plates manufactured

after the field action but prior to a February 2018 material change to the clutch pressure plate. Ford of Europe's Critical Concern Review Group reviewed this issue on October 10, 2018. Analysis of field data for U.S. vehicles equipped with the B6 manual transmission identified no reports of pressure plate damage on vehicles built after the timeframe for the previous field action. On November 19, 2018, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved an incremental population of 2828 vehicles to 18S07. Ford is not aware of any reports of fire, accident or injury in the U.S. related to this condition, but Ford is aware of two reports of underhood fire on vehicles with similar transmissions in Europe.

## 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. 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. There will be no charge for this service.

Ford provided the general reimbursement plan for the cost of remedies paid for by vehicle owners prior to notification of a safety recall in February 2017. The ending date for reimbursement eligibility is January 28, 2019.

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. In addition, dealers will evaluate the clutch for wear and replace as needed.

Focus Clutch Assembly Part Number: DS7Z-7B546-P

**Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** In February of 2018, a design change was made to the clutch pressure plate material from grey cast iron to vermicular iron, which is more robust to slip energy and temperature at the clutch surface.

## Recall Schedule :

**Description of Recall Schedule :** Notification to dealers is expected to occur on November 29, 2018. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin January 7, 2019 and is expected to be completed by January 11, 2019.

**Planned Dealer Notification Date :** NOV 29, 2018 - NOV 29, 2018

**Planned Owner Notification Date :** JAN 07, 2019 - JAN 11, 2019

\* NR - Not Reported