

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 20V-414

**Manufacturer Name :** Ford Motor Company

**Submission Date :** JUL 17, 2020

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 20V-414

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 20S37



## 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 :** 19,299

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 1 %

## Vehicle Information :

**Vehicle 1 :** 2016-2018 Lincoln MKX

**Vehicle Type :** LIGHT VEHICLES

**Body Style :**

**Power Train :** NR

**Descriptive Information :** Affected vehicles are equipped with 16-way power seats.

Ford's engineering team reviewed supplier records to determine the population of the affected parts. The Ford process is capable of tracing seat production to the vehicle in which the seat wiring harness is installed.

The recalled seat wiring harness and seat cushion frame configuration was introduced into production on 11/11/2014 and was taken out of production on 1/24/2020.

There was one report of an un-intended airbag deployed in China.

There have been no reports of accidents or injuries attributed to these conditions as of July 6, 2020.

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.

10,857 Lincoln MKX Vehicles are affected

8,442 Lincoln Nautilus Vehicles are affected

**Production Dates :** NOV 11, 2014 - SEP 04, 2018

**VIN Range 1 : Begin :**

NR

**End :** NR

Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2019-2020 Lincoln Nautilus

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : Affected vehicles are equipped with 16-way power seats.

Ford's engineering team reviewed supplier records to determine the population of the affected parts. The Ford process is capable of tracing seat production to the vehicle in which the seat wiring harness is installed.

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10,857 Lincoln MKX Vehicles are affected  
8,442 Lincoln Nautilus Vehicles are affected

Production Dates : JAN 12, 2018 - JAN 24, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Affected vehicles may have a seat wiring harness with improper protection from the edge of the seat cushion frame. The seat cushion frame edge may, in certain vehicles, interact with the wire harness when the seat occupant uses the tilt function of the seat, potentially damaging one or more of the twenty-eight wires within the harness. Damaged wires may cause a number of symptoms. Two situations could cause potential airbag system malfunction due to the occupant classification system not communicating with the restraint control module as intended. If two specific wires are damaged, and there is a short to ground, the passenger airbag may not deploy. If two different specific wires are damaged to the point that bare wire is exposed, and a third exposed wire contacts either of those wires while they are being powered, the passenger or the drivers side airbag may inadvertently deploy.

There have been no reports of accidents or injuries attributed to these conditions as of July 6, 2020.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the seat wiring harness is damaged by the seat cushion frame the airbag system may not perform as intended in certain circumstances, increasing the risk of injuries.

Ford is not aware of any accidents or injuries relate to this condition.

Description of the Cause : Insufficient clearance between the wire harness and the seat cushion frame and the possibility of a seat cushion frame sharp edge was not reviewed through testing of the full range of motion of the seat prior to launch for the vehicles in the affected population. This condition may lead to improper protection of the seat wiring harness from the seat edge.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : If the wiring harness is damaged, the customers may notice a number of symptoms due to a damaged wiring harness which can include passenger or driver side air bag light illumination

## Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Flocking tape

Component Description : Flocking tape

Component Part Number : 164-R4903

**Supplier Identification :****Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

**Chronology :**

December 2019 – May 2020:

On December 19, 2019 Ford became aware of an inadvertent seat side airbag deployment through warranty review in China.

Ford searched their records for similar concerns.

Ford did not find other reports of inadvertent seat airbag deployment related to this concern.

June – July 2020: Ford continued to review field reports and continued to monitor for any additional reports. Ford did not find any additional reports for this concern.

Ford determined there were five related claims indicating that the occupant classification system may not communicate with the restraint control module as intended. Additional review of these claims indicated that this improper communication could potentially cause airbag system malfunction in limited circumstances.

On July 10, 2020, 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 flocking tape installed on the exposed edge of the 16-way seat cushion frames. The dealer will also inspect the wire harness (KB5Z-19E523-A) and repair or 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 August 2020. The ending date for reimbursement eligibility is August 20, 2020.

Ford will forward a copy of the notification letters to dealers to the agency when available.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : Part number 164-R4903 Flocking tape

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 17, 2020. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin August 10, 2020 and is expected to be completed by August 14, 2020.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUL 20, 2020 - JUL 20, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : AUG 10, 2020 - AUG 14, 2020

\* NR - Not Reported