

September 23, 2020

Subject: Ford Motor Company (Ford) Recall No. **20S56** – certain 2019 model year Ford F-Super Duty 4x4 Vehicles - Front Axle Tube Yoke Weld Location.

Chronology

January - February 2020

A report of a steering pull event occurring immediately after a hard braking application on a vehicle with less than 600 miles was brought to Ford's Critical Concern Review Group (CCRG) for review. Analysis of the vehicle's front axle had found that the left-hand side axle yoke had rotated relative to the axle tube due to an improper weld. A review of Ford's data systems found no similar reports. A review of the axle supplier's production records was undertaken. Supplier records could not verify proper handling and quarantine of non-conforming parts. It was unclear whether any additional suspect axles had been produced without being properly quarantined. The CCRG requested on-going monitoring of field data to identify any similar occurrences while other teams worked with the supplier.

March 2020 – August 2020

Ford's Supplier Technical Assistance group (STA) continued to review supplier records for parts sequencing. Analysis of the production control process found inconsistencies with adherence to set-up part handling requirements. Review of the potential vehicle implications for an improperly welded axle yoke attachment found the most likely effect to be a steering pull, though yoke detachment from the axle could not be ruled out. No additional field reports of axle yoke-to-tube rotation or inaccurately located welds were received.

September 2020

A second field report pertaining to an improperly welded axle yoke attachment was received. Similar to the first report, the driver experienced a steering pull during a hard braking event. Analysis found the left-hand side axle yoke had rotated relative to the axle tube due to an inaccurately located weld. This axle had been produced during the suspect timeframe consistent with the first report. It remains unclear whether additional suspect axles had been produced and not properly quarantined.

On September 16, 2020, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field action.

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