

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

21E-092

Manufacturer Name : Axalta Coating Systems

Submission Date : NOV 05, 2021

NHTSA Recall No. : 21E-092

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : Axalta Coating Systems

Address : 50 Applied Bank Blvd
Suite 300 Glen Mills PA 19342

Company phone : 2152557907

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 100,275

Estimated percentage with defect : 96 %

Equipment Information :

Brand / Trade 1 : Clearcoat

Model : One component acrylic-melamine clearcoat

Part No. : Not relevant

Size : Not relevant

Function : Not relevant

Descriptive Information : Axalta Coating Systems, LLC ("Axalta") makes this submission at NHTSA's request based on the recall of certain vehicles by Ford Motor Company (NHTSA Recall 21V-090) and Stellantis (f/k/a Fiat Chrysler Automotive) (NHTSA Recall 21V-516) related to potential inadequate windshield retention in a crash for those vehicles which, based on Axalta's understanding and analysis, may occur in windshield systems in which certain lots of Axalta's one component acrylic-melamine clearcoat ("impacted clearcoat") is used in combination with primer-less windshield application. A contributing root cause was found to be a single lot of non-conforming flow additive manufactured by Axalta that is an ingredient in the impacted clearcoat. Axalta has not determined that the manufacturing issue presents an unreasonable safety risk for all clearcoat containing the non-conforming flow additive based on the elements of particular windshield adhesion systems, including clearcoat formulation differences, different windshield applications and different production and environmental factors. Axalta's understanding is that the purchasers identified herein, other than Ford and Stellantis, have investigated any potential impact on windshield retention in a crash presented by the use of impacted clearcoat in their respective systems and applications and as of this submission have not concluded that a safety risk or noncompliance exists in those systems and applications. The number of impacted clearcoat is not included in this submission given the volumetric nature of coatings. Axalta traced all lots of impacted clearcoat and provided information on those lots to the purchasers identified herein so that those purchasers could determine the applicable vehicle populations that were potentially coated with such impacted lots. This report is based on information available to Axalta at the time of submission and may not include all information available to the vehicle manufacturers.

Production Dates : OCT 12, 2020 - NOV 30, 2020

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Vehicle windshields that were applied by the vehicle manufacturer in a primer-less fashion and that utilized lots of the impacted clearcoat may give rise to potential inadequate windshield retention in a crash. Axalta's understanding is that the functioning of its impacted clearcoat in windshield adhesion varies based upon each vehicle manufacturer's respective windshield adhesion systems, including the method of windshield application and other production and environmental factors.

The 100,275 number of potentially involved vehicles is based solely on the filings made by Ford and Stellantis. Further, the estimated percentage of involved vehicles with defect is a weighted average of the number of potentially involved vehicles and estimated percentage with defect from the filings made by Ford and Stellantis.

FMVSS 1 : 212 - Windshield mounting

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : As reported by Ford and Stellantis, inadequate windshield retention in a crash may increase the risk of injury to an occupant in a crash.

Description of the Cause : A single batch of non-conforming flow additive was incorporated into certain lots of the impacted clearcoat. Primer-less windshield application systems utilizing the impacted clearcoat may result in inadequate windshield retention in a crash.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : NR

Involved Components :

Component Name : Clearcoat

Component Description : One component acrylic-melamine clearcoat

Component Part Number : Not applicable

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : NR

Address : NR

Pennsylvania

Country : United States

Chronology :

In early January 2021, Axalta employees working at a Ford manufacturing facility learned of a potential windshield adhesion issue for certain Ford F-150 vehicles through scheduled testing. Axalta worked with Ford to understand the issue, and a non-conforming batch of flow additive that was used in the impacted clearcoat was found to be a contributing root cause. Based on this investigation and analysis, Axalta determined that a system involving the impacted clearcoat with the non-conforming flow additive in combination with primer-less windshield application potentially results in inadequate windshield retention. Axalta then contacted the manufacturers noted in this report who utilized lots of such impacted clearcoat with such a primer-less windshield application system. (As noted above, Axalta engaged with Ford in early January 2021. Stellantis, Hyundai and Kia were then contacted in late February 2021.) As reported by Ford and Stellantis, this may increase the risk of injury to an occupant in a crash in the vehicles they identified in their respective notices of recall.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program :	No remedy is required of clearcoat supplier Axalta, as the original equipment manufacturers noted in this report have either conducted recalls or have determined that no such recalls are required. Axalta refers to the vehicle manufacturers' filings for details about their respective remedy programs.
How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component :	Axalta refers to the vehicle manufacturers' filings for details about their respective remedy programs.
Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :	The flow additive manufacturing issue was corrected and additional control measures were implemented to ensure the issue did not reoccur.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule :	Axalta is not conducting a recall. Axalta refers to the vehicle manufacturers' filings for details about their recalls.
Planned Dealer Notification Date :	NR - NR
Planned Owner Notification Date :	NR - NR

Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name :	Ford Motor Company
Address :	1 American Road Dearborn MI 48126
Country :	US
Company Phone :	NR

Name : Stellantis (f/k/a Fiat Chrysler Auto)

Address : 1000 Chrysler Drive
Auburn Hills MI 48326

Country : US

Company Phone : NR

Name : Hyundai Motor America

Address : P.O. Box 20850
Fountain Valley CA 92728

Country : US

Company Phone : NR

Name : Kia Motors America, Inc.

Address : 111 Peters Canyon Rd
Irvine CA 92606

Country : US

Company Phone : NR

* NR - Not Reported