



22S76 – CERTAIN 2021-2022 FORD F-59 and 2022-2023 FORD E-SERIES VEHICLES –
PEELED PAINT ON FUEL TANK

Chronology of Defect / Noncompliance Determination

Provide the chronology of events leading up to the defect decision or test data for the noncompliance decision.

March 2022

On March 10, 2022, Ford's Critical Concern Review Group (CCRG) initiated an investigation into peeling paint on 2022 model year E-Series fuel tanks. Fuel tank peeling paint along the weld seam was first identified by logistics personnel while E-Series units were in transit by rail to upfitter locations.

The CCRG investigation identified that F-59 units utilize the same fuel tank supplier and paint process as the E-Series units. Ford initiated an inspection of E-Series and F-59 units at upfitter facilities and found additional units with fuel tank paint peeling along the weld seam.

April-July 2022

From April-July 2022, Ford investigated the scope of the fuel tank paint peeling condition. Ford studied potential contributors and variables affecting the paint adhesion results including supplier process controls for nozzle clean out and water change, dry-lube contamination due to the age of the raw material coils, and paint drying time. In that investigation, Ford learned that the fuel tank supplier did not have sufficient pre- and post-paint process controls in place. Ford also confirmed that the paint peeling has no near-term effect on fuel tank function, however, extended peeling of the post-paint may leave sections of base metal exposed at the weld seam which could result in long-term corrosion leading to the risk of a potential fuel leak.

August-October 2022

From August-October 2022, Ford collaborated with a fleet customer to facilitate an inspection of fuel tanks in order to assess the severity of the peeling paint and to confirm the scope of the suspect fuel tank population identified through statistical analysis.

November 2022

In November 2022, the CCRG conducted a comprehensive review of all data collected from the fuel tank supplier, vehicle upfitters, fleet customers and vehicle assembly plants and verified the supplier production dates of fuel tanks with inadequate paint adhesion for both E-Series and F-59 vehicles.

As of December 05, 2022, Ford is not aware of any warranty claims related to this concern.

On December 07, 2022, 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.

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December 14, 2022