



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration

## Part 573 Safety Recall Report

## 25V338

**Manufacturer Name:** Ford Motor Company

**Submission Date:** Dec 18, 2025

**NHTSA Recall No.:** 25V338

**Manufacturer Recall No.:** 25C18

### Manufacturer Information

### Population

**Manufacturer Name:** Ford Motor Company

**Address:** 20000 Rotunda Drive  
Mezzanine  
Dearborn MI, 48124

**Total number of potentially involved:** 4,442

**Estimated percentage with defect:** 100%

### Vehicle Information

**Vehicle 1:** 2020-2023 LINCOLN AVIATOR

**Product Category:** Light Vehicles

**Product Type:**

**Fuel / Propulsion:**

**Production Dates:** Nov 13, 2018 - Dec 13, 2022

**Number of potentially involved:** 2,195

**Descriptive Information:**

The Ford process is capable of determining which software part numbers have been installed in production and service. Affected vehicles do not contain the remedy the Audio Control Module software for recall 22C35.

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.

2060 Aviator vehicles are affected

**Vehicle 2:** 2020-2023 LINCOLN CORSAIR

**Product Category:** Light Vehicles

**Product Type:**

**Fuel / Propulsion:**

**Production Dates:** Jan 31, 2019 - Nov 17, 2022

**Number of potentially involved:** 2,247

**Descriptive Information:**

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1167 Corsair vehicles are affected

## Defect / Noncompliance Description

### Description of the defect or noncompliance:

According to Ford's records, certain 2020-2023 MY Aviator and Corsair vehicles did not have the remedy for Safety Recall 22C35 / 22V-953 installed correctly, but were recorded as having the repair successfully completed. Because the correct software update remedy may not be installed on the vehicle, the underlying condition specified in Safety Recall 22C35 / 22V-953 may still exist, and the seat belt warning system may activate an audible signal for a period of less than 4 seconds when the driver's seat belt is not buckled and the vehicle is started.

**FMVSS1:** 208 - Occupant crash protection

**FMVSS2:**

### Description of the safety risk, including crash, fire, death, injury:

The underlying safety risk specified in Safety Recall 22C35 / 22V-953 still exists on these specified vehicles. Ford described that safety risk as, "An audible signal that is activated for less than 4 seconds can result in decreased safety belt usage, increasing the risk of injury during a crash."

### Description of the cause:

The dealer instructions to complete the recall instruct the technician to upload the latest software using the service tool, which downloads the latest software from Ford for installation on the vehicle. For these vehicles, the software tool did not upload the correct software to the vehicle.

An audit dashboard bug, discovered in November 2025, incorrectly used engineering entered values in the "fixed vehicle" calculation. This led to misidentifying certain vehicles as repaired that were not repaired.

### Identification of any warning that can occur:

None

## Component Manufacturer

**Tier of Supplier:**

**Supplier Type:**

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**Name:** Ford Motor Company  
**Address:** 1 American Road  
Dearborn MI, 48126  
**Country:** United States

## Involved Components

**Component Name 1:** Audio Head Unit

**Component Description:** AM/FM/Div/0Ch/SDARS/HD-MRC/A2B/Hif2/ESE/ANC/Lincoln features

**Component Part Number:** PJ7T-18D890-SC

**Component Name 2:** Audio Head Unit

**Component Description:** AM/FM/Div/0Ch/Hif2/ANC/Lincoln features

**Component Part Number:** LC5T-18K810-JC

**Component Name 3:** Audio Head Unit

**Component Description:** AM/FM/Div/0Ch/SDARS/HD-MRC/A2B/Hif2/ESE/ANC/Lincoln feature

**Component Part Number:** MC5T-18D890-SC

## Chronology

On **November 26, 2024**, an issue pertaining to incomplete software recall remedies was brought to Ford's Critical Concern Group (CCRG) for review. This issue was initially identified in a Quality Office forum, where an audit was requested for software part numbers applied to vehicles remedied under a sample of field service actions (FSAs). Initial review of three FSAs revealed insufficient data to confirm correct software application across all FSAs using the FDRS service tool. Further investigation was deemed necessary.

In **December 2024**, a cross-functional team was formed to audit all software FSAs that used the FDRS service tool, with its first focus being on safety and compliance FSAs. Templates were created to track software lineage part numbers.

On **December 19, 2024**, Ford informed NHTSA of this concern -- the service tool data confirmed that the software state on the service tool at the time of installation matches the FSA software release for most vehicles. However, there are vehicles that do not have a match between the software state on the service tool and the FSA software release. Ford discussed with NHTSA its plan to address the mismatched vehicles.

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In **January 2025**, the cross-functional team created database records to store all software lineage part numbers for previously launched FSAs. The team then began auditing the current software level for every VIN repaired under several previously launched FSAs.

On **May 12, 2025**, the cross-functional team completed the audit of 22C35 and brought the results to Ford's CCRG for review, concluding that 94.2% of the repairs conducted under 22C35 had the correct software installed. The team identified the specific vehicles that were recorded as receiving the remedy, but have software that does not remedy the noncompliance.

On **May 16, 2025**, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field action

On **November 17, 2025**, a bug in the audit dashboard logic for FSA audits was discovered. This bug incorrectly utilized engineering-entered values in the "fixed vehicle" calculation, leading to the misidentification of vehicles as fixed that should not have been. This error resulted in an inflated "fixed" population. A review of the vehicles shown as repaired was conducted after this bug was identified resulting in the identification of VINs incorrectly closed as repaired without receiving the FSA remedy.

On **December 11, 2025**, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved an amendment to this field action.

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

**Related NHTSA Recall Number:** 22V953

### Description of Remedy

**Remedy Type:** Software

**Consumer Advisories:**  Do Not Drive  Park Outside

**Description of remedy program:**

Owners will be notified by mail and instructed to take their vehicle to a Ford or Lincoln dealer to have the Audio Control Module software updated. Then, the software part numbers will be validated using the Software Validation Form in the Professional Technician System before the FSA is closed. 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 May 2023. Owners who have paid to have these repairs completed at their own expense may be eligible for reimbursement, in accordance with the recall reimbursement plan on file with NHTSA.

**How remedy component differs from recalled component:**

The software service package will have the intended remedy for 22C35 / 22V-953

**Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:**

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Not required per 49 Part 573.

**Reimbursement Plan**

Manufacturer used general reimbursement plan on file.

**Recall Schedule****Description of recall schedule:**

Notification to dealers is expected to occur on June 23, 2025. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin June 23, 2025 and is expected to be completed by June 30, 2025.

**Planned Dealer Notification Date:** Jun 23, 2025 - Jun 23, 2025  No Dealers

**Planned Interim Owner Notification Date:**  No Owners

**Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date:** Jun 23, 2025 - Jun 30, 2025  Phased Recall

**Date when VIN will be searchable:** Jun 23, 2025