



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

25V628

Manufacturer Name: Ford Motor Company

Submission Date: Sep 19, 2025

NHTSA Recall No.: 25V628

Manufacturer Recall No.: 22S36/22S48

Manufacturer Information

Population

Manufacturer Name: Ford Motor Company

Address: 330 Town Center Drive
Suite 500
Dearborn MI, 48126-2738

Total number of potentially involved: 4,632

Estimated percentage with defect: 1%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2020-2020 FORD EXPEDITION

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Nov 17, 2020 - Dec 01, 2020

Number of potentially involved: 3,730

Descriptive Information:

Affected vehicles were built between November 17, 2020, and December 1, 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.

- 3,730 Expeditions are affected.
- 2,558 Expeditions with Standard Duty Radiator Fan Motor (700W)
- 1,172 Expeditions with Heavy Duty Radiator Fan Motor (800W)

Vehicle 2: 2020-2020 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Nov 17, 2020 - Dec 01, 2020

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Number of potentially involved: 902

Descriptive Information:

Affected vehicles were built between November 17, 2020, and December 1, 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.

- 902 Navigators are affected.
- 471 Navigators with Standard Duty Radiator Fan Motor (700W)
- 431 Navigators with Heavy Duty Radiator Fan Motor (800W)

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

Ford Motor Company has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2020 model year Ford Expedition and Lincoln Navigator vehicles built between November 17, 2020, and December 1, 2020. An electrical short may develop in the battery junction box's printed circuit board that is capable of an electrical current load sufficient to overheat the printed circuit board.

FMVSS1:

FMVSS2:

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

Risk of underhood fire, including while the vehicle is parked and off.

Description of the cause:

The printed circuit boards in the battery junction box of the affected vehicles were produced with improper solder mask coverage and limited conformal coating, which exposes a via circuit to water that naturally occurs in the vehicle environment. The combination of any contaminants and water initiates corrosion and dendritic growth that eventually leads to an electrical short capable of an electrical current load sufficient to overheat the printed circuit board.

These circuit boards were produced by a supplier that shifted production to a different manufacturing facility in 2020 at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Identification of any warning that can occur:

Some customers have reported a burning smell and smoke from the front passenger engine compartment while driving.

Component Manufacturer

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Tier of Supplier: Tier 2

Supplier Type: OEM

Name: Safari Circuits

Address: 411 Washington St.
Otsego MI, 49078

Country: United States

Tier of Supplier: Tier 1

Supplier Type: OEM

Name: Western Diversified Plastics

Address: 53150 N. Main St.
Mattawan MI, 49071

Country: United States

Involved Components

Component Name 1: Panel Asy - Fuse Junction

Component Description: High Content Battery Junction Box

Component Part Number: ML1T-14D068-AA

Component Name 2: Panel Asy - Fuse Junction

Component Description: Low Content Battery Junction Box

Component Part Number: ML1T-14D068-BA

Chronology

On **May 13, 2022**, Ford's Field Review Committee approved a safety recall 22V346 (22S36) and advised owners to park their vehicles outside and away from structures while Ford's investigation continued.

On **June 29, 2022**, Ford's Field Review Committee approved a safety recall 22V346 (22S48) to address a condition in which an electrical short may develop in the battery junction box's printed circuit board that is capable of an electrical current load sufficient to overheat the printed circuit board. This safety recall included an expanded vehicle population and service remedies.

August – September 2025

On **August 11, 2025**, in support of Ford's obligations under paragraph 44 of the Ford consent order with NHTSA, Ford's Critical Concern Review Group (CCRG) opened a new investigation to review scoping for these field actions. Ford reviewed reports of two (2) underhood fire allegations and one (1) report of a melted battery junction box (BJB) on 2020 model year Expedition and Navigator vehicles. In August

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and September 2025, the CCRG conducted site visits with the supplier and part analysis. The CCRG team also reviewed field claims and connected vehicle data. Based on CCRG's review of supplier production records, Ford was able to verify that the supplier shipped suspect parts during the end of 2020MY production and that some 2020MY vehicles were also built with BJBs containing suspect PCBs during this time period. CCRG was able to trace these suspect BJBs to the affected 2020MY VINs.

On **September 12, 2025**, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved an amendment to the 22V346 22S36/22S48 field action. This amendment adds 4,632 2020 MY vehicles produced with suspect BJBs.

As of September 12, 2025, Ford is aware of one warranty report for 2020 MY vehicles produced with suspect BJBs.

As of September 12, 2025, Ford is aware of one potentially related field report for 2020 MY vehicles produced with suspect BJBs.

Related NHTSA Recall Number: 22V346

Description of Remedy

Remedy Type: Inspect, Repair, Replace

Consumer Advisories: ☐ Do Not Drive ☒ Park Outside

Description of remedy program:

Owners of vehicles from the expanded population produced from November 17, 2020, – December 1, 2020, will be notified by mail and instructed to park their vehicle outside and away from structures and other vehicles due to the risk of unattended fire.

Ford developed two different repair procedures for these vehicles, which depends on whether the vehicle has a standard duty radiator fan motor (700W) or a heavy duty radiator fan motor (800W).

Owners of all vehicles produced from November 17, 2020, – December 1, 2020, with heavy duty radiator fan motors (800W) will be notified that a remedy is currently available. Owners will be instructed to take their vehicle to a Ford or Lincoln dealer to first inspect the battery junction box (BJB) for damage and replace those with existing damage. Second, dealers will remove a ground wire free of charge.

Owners of all vehicles produced from November 17, 2020, – December 1, 2020, with standard duty radiator fan motors (700W) will be notified that a remedy is currently available. The remedy for these vehicles will include a battery junction box (BJB) inspection and replacement (if necessary), the removal of a ground wire, and the installation of an auxiliary electrical box with a wire jumper installed.

Ford provided the general reimbursement plan for the cost of remedies paid for by vehicle owners prior to notification of a safety recall in September 2025. The ending date for reimbursement eligibility is estimated to be October 20, 2025, for the expanded population vehicles.

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

Owners will be notified by mail and instructed to take their vehicle to a Ford or Lincoln dealer to have a wiring harness installed and the battery junction box (BJB) inspected and replaced if necessary. There will be no charge for this service.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

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Vehicles equipped with the heavy duty radiator fan motors will have a ground circuit removed from the battery junction box.

Vehicles equipped with the standard duty radiator fan motors will have a ground circuit removed from the battery junction box and an auxiliary box with wire jumper installed.

Identify how/when recall condition was corrected in production:

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 September 23, 2025. Mailing of remedy owner notification letters is expected to begin September 29, 2025, and is expected to be completed by October 3, 2025. The date VINs are planned to be searchable is September 23, 2025.

Planned Dealer Notification Date: Sep 23, 2025 - Sep 23, 2025

☐ No Dealers

Planned Interim Owner Notification Date:

☐ No Owners

Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date: Sep 25, 2025 - Oct 03, 2025

☐ Phased Recall

Date when VIN will be searchable: Sep 23, 2025