



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

26V011

Manufacturer Name: Ford Motor Company

Submission Date: May 12, 2026

NHTSA Recall No.: 26V011

Manufacturer Recall No.: 26S01

Manufacturer Information

Population

Manufacturer Name: Ford Motor Company

Address: 20000 Rotunda Drive
Mezzanine
Dearborn MI, 48124

Total number of potentially involved: 116,672

Estimated percentage with defect: 1%

Vehicle Information

Vehicle 1: 2015-2016 LINCOLN MKC

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Feb 25, 2014 - Mar 19, 2016

Number of potentially involved: 1,909

Descriptive Information:

Affected Ford and Lincoln vehicles are equipped with a suspect engine block heater. 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.

1909 MKC vehicles are affected

Vehicle 2: 2013-2018 FORD FOCUS

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Passenger Car

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Feb 14, 2012 - May 04, 2018

Number of potentially involved: 49,080

Descriptive Information:

Affected Ford and Lincoln vehicles are equipped with a suspect engine block heater. 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

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Lincoln dealer who can obtain specific information regarding the vehicles from the Ford On-line Automotive Service Information System (OASIS) database.

49,080 Focus vehicles are affected.

Vehicle 3: 2013-2019 FORD ESCAPE

Product Category: Light Vehicles

Product Type: Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle

Fuel / Propulsion: Spark Ignition Fuel

Production Dates: Oct 07, 2011 - Aug 02, 2019

Number of potentially involved: 65,683

Descriptive Information:

Affected Ford and Lincoln vehicles are equipped with a suspect engine block heater. 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.

65,683 Escape vehicles are affected

Defect / Noncompliance Description

Description of the defect or noncompliance:

The engine block heater installed in vehicles with a 2.0L engine may experience overheating and develop a coolant leak through its element pins. This could cause a resistive short while the vehicle is parked and the block heater is plugged into an electrical supply.

FMVSS1:

FMVSS2:

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

A short circuit in the engine block heater increases the risk of an underhood fire. The risk is increased when the block heater is plugged into a 110-volt electrical supply without a functional circuit breaker or Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) power outlet. This risk only exists when the block heater is plugged in.

Description of the cause:

Engine block heater solder joints can develop cracks around the element base which allows coolant to infiltrate into the block heater to cord interface. Evaporation of this coolant leaves behind electrically conductive salt deposits. Over time, these deposits accumulate, forming a salt bridge or corroding

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electrical connections, which could establish an electrical path to ground and may result in a resistive short circuit.

Identification of any warning that can occur:

The customer may notice coolant spots on the driveway or garage floor, a loss of cabin heat, powertrain unit overheating, or a warning indicator for a low coolant level. Additionally, the condition can cause heat damage to the block heater electrical wiring and connector and the customer may notice an odor or smoke.

Component Manufacturer

Tier of Supplier: Tier 1

Supplier Type: OEM

Name: Phillips and Temro Industries

Address: 9700 West 74th Street
Eden Prairie MN, 55344

Country: United States

Involved Components

Component Name 1: Engine Block Heater

Component Description: Engine Block Heater

Component Part Number: CV6T-6A051-AA

Component Name 2: Engine Block Heater

Component Description: Engine Block Heater

Component Part Number: CV6T-6A051-BA

Component Name 3: Engine Block Heater

Component Description: Engine Block Heater

Component Part Number: CV6T-6A051-CA

Chronology

On January 16, 2025, an issue pertaining to potential Engine Block Heater (EBH) fires across multiple model years and vehicle lines was brought to Ford's Critical Concern Review Group (CCRG) for review.

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From February 2025 through May 2025, Ford Supplier Technical Assistance (STA) and Engineering performed a comprehensive onsite review of supplier material and manufacturing quality records. The review did not identify any manufacturing quality concerns and determined that the EBHs were manufactured within Ford's specifications and met all design requirements.

In July 2025, microscopic images of three failed CV6T EBHs from fire-damaged 2014-2017 Escape 2.0L Engine vehicles were analyzed. The images revealed cracks to the solder joint around the base of the heater element, indicating a potential path for coolant to seep inside the cord connector pocket.

In August 2025, the CCRG investigation team reviewed CT-scan images from the same failed CV6T parts. These images also indicated internal solder voids. The root cause for the solder joint cracks and solder voids remains under investigation.

From September to December 2025, Ford Engineering conducted thermal shock endurance tests and simulated different usage scenarios on 2.0L engine block applications but did not find definitive evidence of the cause of the solder cracks or voids. The packaging of the block heater element in 2.0L engine blocks, the negative inclination angle, and cooling system leakage in combination may result in the susceptibility of block heater element overheating.

As of December 3, 2025, Ford is aware of 12 Ford Escape 2.0L vehicle owners that are alleging vehicle fires caused by the CV6T EBH.

On January 8, 2026, 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.

Related NHTSA Recall Number:

Description of Remedy

Remedy Type: Replace

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 and offered two options: (1) to have the engine block heater replaced when a newly designed engine block heater becomes available; or (2) to replace the engine block heater element with a threaded blanking plug and remove the engine block heater cord from the engine compartment. There will be no charge for this service. Owners will be instructed to refrain from plugging in their vehicle's block heater until the vehicle is remedied.

Ford will forward a copy of the notification letters to dealers and affected owners to the department when available.

How remedy component differs from recalled component:

The recalled engine block heater, part number CV6T-6A051-AA/BA/CA, will be replaced with a newly designed engine block heater.

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 January 16, 2026. Mailing of interim owner notification letters is expected to begin February 9, 2026, and is expected to be completed by February 13, 2026. Mailing of remedy owner notification letters is expected to begin April 13, 2026, and is expected to be completed by April 17, 2026. The date VINs are planned to be searchable is January 16, 2026.

Planned Dealer Notification Date: Jan 16, 2026 - Jan 20, 2026 No Dealers

Planned Interim Owner Notification Date: Feb 09, 2026 - Feb 13, 2026 No Owners

Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date: Apr 13, 2026 - Apr 17, 2026 Phased Recall

Date when VIN will be searchable: Jan 16, 2026