



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 26V124

**Manufacturer Name:** Ford Motor Company

**Submission Date:** Mar 31, 2026

**NHTSA Recall No.:** 26V124

**Manufacturer Recall No.:** 26S09

## Manufacturer Information

## Population

**Manufacturer Name:** Ford Motor Company

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

**Total number of potentially involved:** 849,310

**Estimated percentage with defect:** 100%

## Vehicle Information

**Vehicle 1:** 2021-2026 FORD BRONCO

**Product Category:** Light Vehicles

**Product Type:** Light Truck

**Fuel / Propulsion:**

**Production Dates:** Sep 20, 2020 - Feb 10, 2026

**Number of potentially involved:** 528,168

### Descriptive Information:

The Ford process is capable of determining which vehicles contain the mid/high SYNC 4 infotainment system.

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.

**Vehicle 2:** 2021-2024 FORD EDGE

**Product Category:** Light Vehicles

**Product Type:** Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle

**Fuel / Propulsion:**

**Production Dates:** Aug 14, 2020 - May 03, 2024

**Number of potentially involved:** 321,142

### Descriptive Information:

The Ford process is capable of determining which vehicles contain the mid/high SYNC 4 infotainment system.

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## Defect / Noncompliance Description

### Description of the defect or noncompliance:

On affected vehicles, the APIM (Accessory Protocol Interface Module) may experience a temporary thermal shutdown condition for up to five minutes. When the APIM shutdown occurs, customers lose the ability to display the Rear View Camera (RVC) image while in reverse gear.

**FMVSS1:**

**FMVSS2:**

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

A rear-view camera that does not display an image while in reverse gear can reduce the driver's view of what is behind the vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash.

### Description of the cause:

Under some operating conditions, the APIM (Accessory Protocol Interface Module) is reaching temperatures of 105° C and subsequently initiating a temporary thermal shutdown to protect its electronic components. In these cases, the APIM cannot cool itself sufficiently due to sustained, high ambient cabin temperatures, which are a result of a stack-up of certain, specific vehicle and hardware configurations.

### Identification of any warning that can occur:

Blank infotainment screen.

## Component Manufacturer

### Tier of Supplier:

**Supplier Type:** OEM

**Name:** Ford Motor Company

**Address:** 1 American Dr.  
Dearborn MI, 48126

**Country:** United States

## Involved Components

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**Component Name 1:** APIM (Accessory Protocol Interface Module)

**Component Description:** Sync 4 mid/high variant – 26MY Bronco

**Component Part Number:** VU5T-14G670-XXX

**Component Name 2:** APIM (Accessory Protocol Interface Module)

**Component Description:** Sync 4 mid/high variant – 21-23MY Edge

**Component Part Number:** NU5T-14G670-XXX

**Component Name 3:** APIM (Accessory Protocol Interface Module)

**Component Description:** Sync 4 mid/high variant – 24MY Edge

**Component Part Number:** RU5T-14G670-XXX

**Component Name 4:** APIM (Accessory Protocol Interface Module)

**Component Description:** Sync 4 mid/high variant – 21-22MY Bronco

**Component Part Number:** MU5T-14G670-XXX

**Component Name 5:** APIM (Accessory Protocol Interface Module)

**Component Description:** Sync 4 mid/high variant – 22-24MY Bronco

**Component Part Number:** PU5T-14G670-XXX

**Component Name 6:** APIM (Accessory Protocol Interface Module)

**Component Description:** Sync 4 mid/high variant – 25MY Bronco

**Component Part Number:** SU5T-14G670-XXX

## Chronology

On **November 13, 2025**, Ford's Electronics Platforms engineering team informed CCRG of Connected Vehicle data identifying an elevated rate of APIM (Accessory Protocol Interface Module) temporary thermal shutdowns on certain 2021–2024 model year Ford Edge vehicles. When one of these vehicles experiences a temporary thermal shutdown, the center touchscreen features, including rearview camera functionality, are unavailable for up to five minutes while the APIM cools down.

Starting in November and continuing through January, a cross-functional engineering task-force performed a read across analysis of connected vehicle data. Informed by this data, the team conducted CAE modeling, component design and packaging reviews, customer outreach to Management Lease Vehicle (MLV) drivers who had experienced the condition, and vehicle testing both on-road and within thermal environmental chambers. As a result of these efforts, Ford engineering confirmed that 2021-

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2024 Ford Edge and certain 2021-2026 Ford Bronco vehicles were uniquely susceptible to experiencing this condition.

CCRG's investigation learned that a primary causal factor relates to the increased thermal load placed on the APIM module in these vehicles due to proximity to HVAC ducts and the audio head unit; vehicle testing and CAE analysis confirms the susceptibility of these vehicles to experience a temporary thermal shutdown condition. Further, the software strategy on these vehicles could have been more direct and robust to provide customer notifications and mitigation actions.

During November 2025 to January 2026, Ford met with NHTSA and discussed this topic.

As of February 17, 2026, Ford is not aware of any warranty claims or VOQs attributable to the APIM temporary thermal shutdown.

On **February 24, 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:** Software, Software OTA

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

### Description of remedy program:

The remedy for this program is an Accessory Protocol Interface Module (APIM) software update. Ford has initiated Over-The-Air (OTA) deployment to update the APIM for the 2021-2026 Bronco vehicles, and 2021-2024 Edge vehicles will follow. Alternatively, owners will have the option to take their vehicle to a Ford or Lincoln dealer to have an updated version of SYNC 4 software flashed into their Accessory Protocol Interface Module (APIM). There will be no charge for this service.

### How remedy component differs from recalled component:

The remedy software is distinguished from the recalled software by the inclusion of integrated customer notifications and automated mitigation actions to reduce cabin temperature. The following software versions (and all subsequent releases) contain these features:

2026 Bronco: SYNC 4 version 26043\_PRODUCT.2295 (PU5T-14G676-KB)  
 2025 Bronco: SYNC 4 version 26057\_PRODUCT.2336 (PU5T-14G676-HG)  
 2021-2024 Bronco: SYNC 4 version 26069\_PRODUCT.2354 (PU5T-14G676-EK)  
 2021-2024 Edge: SYNC 4 version 26062\_PRODUCT.2344 (PU5T-14G676-DD)

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

## Reimbursement Plan

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Manufacturer used general reimbursement plan on file.

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

Notification to dealers is expected to occur on March 5th, 2026. Mailing of remedy owner notification letters is expected to begin March 30th, 2026 and is expected to be completed by April 3rd, 2026. The date VINs are planned to be searchable is March 5th, 2026.

- Planned Dealer Notification Date:** Mar 05, 2026 - Mar 05, 2026  No Dealers
- Planned Interim Owner Notification Date:** Mar 30, 2026 - Apr 03, 2026  No Owners
- Planned Remedy Owner Notification Date:** Apr 06, 2026 - Apr 10, 2026  Phased Recall
- Date when VIN will be searchable:** Mar 05, 2026