

Part 573 Safety Recall Report**15V-861****Manufacturer Name :** Ford Motor Company**Submission Date :** DEC 21, 2015**NHTSA Recall No. :** 15V-861**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 15S39**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Ford Motor Company

Address : 330 Town Center Drive

Suite 500 Dearborn MI 48126-2738

Company phone : 1-866-436-7332

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 296,004

Estimated percentage with defect : NR

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle : 2003-2005 Ford Crown Victoria

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : ALL

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Ford records indicate that approximately 480,480 vehicles were produced and sold in the US and its territories. Ford conducted a study of historical programs and found that, for vehicles of this age and usage, approximately 30 percent of the vehicle population is expected to have been scrapped or no longer in use. In addition, vehicles repaired for this condition under an extended warranty program (14N01) previously offered by Ford will not be included in this recall since they have already been repaired with a new module. Therefore, the total population of vehicles affected by this recall is approximately 296,004 units.

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.

Production Dates : OCT 03, 2001 - AUG 02, 2005

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

 Not sequential VINs

Vehicle : 2003-2005 Mercury Grand Marquis

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : ALL

Power Train : GAS

Descriptive Information : Ford records indicate that approximately 480,480 vehicles were produced and sold in the US and its territories. Ford conducted a study of historical programs and

found that, for vehicles of this age and usage, approximately 30 percent of the vehicle population is expected to have been scrapped or no longer in use. In addition, vehicles repaired for this condition under an extended warranty program (14N01) previously offered by Ford will not be included in this recall since they have already been repaired with a new module. Therefore, the total population of vehicles affected by this recall is approximately 296,004 units.

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Production Dates : OCT 03, 2001 - AUG 02, 2005

VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) Range

Begin : NR

End : NR

Not sequential VINs

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The Lighting Control Module (LCM) uses an internal relay, mounted to a circuit board, to control power to the headlights. The headlight relay is soldered to a circuit board at six different terminals. These solder joints may fatigue crack caused by repeated thermal cycling and/or vibration that can interrupt power to the headlights. The condition could be exacerbated by an insufficient amount of solder, reducing the adhesion between the solder and the terminal. Cracked solder joints on the circuit board of the LCM may result in loss of headlights while driving. Other lighting functions are unaffected by this condition.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Loss of headlights while driving could potentially increase the risk of vehicle crash at night.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Headlights may have intermittent operation or flicker prior to loss of headlights.

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Continental Automotive Systems, Inc

Address : 1830 MacMillan Park Dr.

Fort Mill SOUTH CAROLINA 29707

Country : United States

Chronology :

On November 26, 2008, NHTSA opened preliminary evaluation PE08-066 into reports of headlights extinguishing while driving on 2003 through 2005 model year Ford Crown Victoria and Mercury Grand Marquis vehicles. That investigation was subsequently closed on March 24, 2009. At the time of closing, the Agency indicated that the condition could lead to poor headlight performance, ranging from intermittent outage and dimming to eventual headlight failure, but did not identify a safety-related defect.

The Agency contacted Ford in late October 2013 regarding additional Vehicle Owner Questionnaires (VOQs) that they were receiving on LCM-related concerns. At that time, Ford reviewed VOQs and internal reports and determined that the failure mechanism and the field experience for vehicles experiencing LCM-related headlight concerns remained consistent with the findings from the prior PE investigation. Subsequently, Ford offered an extended warranty program to cover the high cost of repair for the LCM. Ford extended the warranty on the LCM to 15 years/250,000 miles in April 2014 and notified owners.

In April 2015, NHTSA opened a defect petition (DP) investigation on the LCM and subsequently upgraded the investigation to a preliminary evaluation (PE) on September 12, 2015. NHTSA identified to date 624 total consumer complaints including four minor accidents. Approximately 75 percent of the reports to NHTSA indicated intermittent or inoperative headlight function. Ford identified additional reports related to the condition, including 11 reports of minor accidents and one allegation of a minor injury. While the nature of the reports has not changed, reports continue to be received by both NHTSA and Ford. Ford reviewed the issue with NHTSA on December 7, 2015. In cooperation with the Agency, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a Field Service Action on December 14, 2015.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Owners will be notified by mail and instructed to take their vehicle to a Ford or Lincoln dealer to replace the Lighting Control Module (LCM) following the published Workshop Manual procedures. 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 February 2015. The ending date for reimbursement eligibility is February 29, 2016.

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

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers is expected to occur on December 22, 2015. Initial mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin January 19, 2016 and be completed by January 26, 2016. This mailing will notify customers about the recall and inform them to only bring the vehicle in for repair if they are experiencing symptoms. Another owner notification letter will be mailed once service parts become available.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : DEC 22, 2015 - DEC 22, 2015

Planned Owner Notification Date : JAN 19, 2016 - JAN 26, 2016

* NR - Not Reported