

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

17V-168

Manufacturer Name : Ford Motor Company**Submission Date :** MAR 13, 2017**NHTSA Recall No. :** 17V-168**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 17C04**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 : 5,470

Estimated percentage with defect : NR

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2017-2017 Ford Mustang

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : On 2017 Mustang vehicles built between January 13, 2017, and January 31, 2017, left-hand interior door handles may have been built with a mis-oriented return spring.

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 : JAN 13, 2017 - JAN 31, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Noncompliance :**

Description of the Noncompliance : On affected vehicles, the left-hand interior door handle may have been built with a mis-oriented return spring, which could increase the potential for the return spring to become unseated. If the return spring becomes unseated, the door may unlatch when subjected to a 30G inertial load. Ford is not aware of any reports of accident or injury related to this condition.

FMVSS 1 : 206 - Door locks and door retention components

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the interior door handle return spring is unseated, the inertial loads experienced by the interior door handle may cause the door to unlatch during a side impact, increasing the risk of injury in a crash.

Description of the Cause : The Tier-2 supplier's production process for the Inner Door Release Handle

Assembly includes a validation sensor that confirms the correct orientation of the return spring. On the suspect vehicles, the inner door handle release spring assembly may have had the return spring improperly oriented due to the spring validation sensor not functioning properly during the door handle assembly process.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : None

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : Key Plastics

Address : 12367 MT. OLIVET RD
FELTON PENNSYLVANIA 17322

Country : United States

Chronology :

January 2017: The Tier-2 supplier discovered a missing spring on a left-hand Inner Door Release Handle Assembly for 2017 Mustang vehicles and initiated an internal investigation. Subsequently, the Tier-1 supplier found Inner Door Release Handle Assemblies with missing springs, and initiated an internal quarantine of incoming stock from the Tier-2 supplier. Additionally, Ford Flat Rock Assembly Plant (FRAP) discovered a vehicle with a loose spring inside the door trim panel and initiated containment and inspection of all door trim panel assemblies. An inspection of 843 vehicles at FRAP identified 14 vehicles with incorrectly oriented or missing return springs.

February 2017: This concern was reviewed in the Critical Concerns Review Group (CCRG) for assessment of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 206. Engineering conducted a 30G Inertial Load Resistance Calculation on the door latch system with the absence of the interior door handle return spring. Based on the engineering calculation, the decision was made to conduct dynamic testing to evaluate door latch performance with a missing return spring.

March 2017: Ford Crash Safety conducted dynamic tests to determine door performance with the absence of the interior door handle spring subjected to a load of 30G as specified in F/CMVSS 206 S4.1.1.4. Dynamic testing was conducted in both the longitudinal and transverse axis of the vehicle. Test results showed door latch disengagement from the latch position in transverse/side impacts (left-hand or right-hand direction of the driver side door).

On March 13, 2017, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field action.

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 have the left-hand interior door handle inspected for a missing or incorrectly oriented return spring and repaired if necessary. There will be no charge for this service.

Ford is excluding reimbursement for costs because the original warranty program would provide for a free repair for this concern.

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

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : N/A

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : N/A

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers is expected to occur on March 14, 2017. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin April 24, 2017 and is expected to be completed by April 28, 2017.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : MAR 14, 2017 - MAR 14, 2017

Planned Owner Notification Date : APR 24, 2017 - APR 28, 2017

* NR - Not Reported