

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

July 5, 2017

Mr. Todd Fronckowiak Assistant Director, Global Automotive Safety Compliance Ford Motor Company Fairlane Plaza South, Suite #500 330 Town Center Drive Dearborn, MI 48126-2738

**Subject:** Driveshaft Coupling may Fail

Dear Mr. Fronckowiak:

This letter serves to acknowledge Ford Motor Company's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

#### Makes/Models/Model Years:

FORD/TRANSIT/2015-2017

**Mfr's Report Date:** June 26, 2017

NHTSA Campaign Number: 17V-408

**Components:** 

POWER TRAIN: DRIVELINE: DRIVESHAFT

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 372,991

## **Problem Description:**

Ford Motor Company (Ford) is recalling all 2015-2017 Transit vehicles except 156" and 178" wheelbase Chassis Cab and Cut-Away bodies. In the affected vehicles, the flexible coupling connecting the transmission to the driveshaft may prematurely fail.

## **Consequence:**

If the coupling fails, the vehicle will not be able to move under its own power and the disconnected driveshaft may impact and damage the brake and fuel lines. Additionally, the separated driveshaft may allow the vehicle to roll if the vehicle is exited when the transmission is in 'Park' but the parking brake is not applied. These scenarios may increase the risk of a crash.

# Remedy:

Ford will notify owners, and as an interim repair, dealers will replace the flexible coupling on any vehicle with more than 30,000 miles. A final remedy repair of a redesigned flexible coupling or a revised driveshaft equipped with a universal joint is being developed. These repairs will be made free of charge. The recall is expected to begin July 17, 2017. Owners may contact Ford customer service at 1-866-436-7332. Ford's number for this recall is 17S15.

#### **Notes:**

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.



1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-150SM

17V-408

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Sarah Mcshane who may be reached by phone at 202-366-7401, or by email at sarah.mcshane@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Timian

Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations

Office of Defects Investigations

Enforcement

