

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

# 19V-839

**Manufacturer Name :** Ford Motor Company

**Submission Date :** NOV 21, 2019

**NHTSA Recall No. :** 19V-839

**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 19S43



## 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 :** 72,718

**Estimated percentage with defect :** 2 %

## Vehicle Information :

**Vehicle 1 :** 2019-2019 Ford Ranger

**Vehicle Type :** LIGHT VEHICLES

**Body Style :** PICKUP TRUCK

**Power Train :** NR

**Descriptive Information :** Ford's Manufacturing team reviewed plant records to determine the population of affected vehicles that may have unseated terminals in an underbody inline connector.

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 :** JUN 04, 2018 - AUG 16, 2019

**VIN Range 1 : Begin :**

NR

**End :** NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** Inline electrical connector terminals for the tail lamps may be misaligned or not properly seated. Misaligned or improperly seated terminals can result in intermittent or inoperative tail lamp function.

**FMVSS 1 :** NR

**FMVSS 2 :** NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** Intermittent or inoperative tail lamps can result in loss of stop, turn, rear position, and reverse lamp functions, which reduces the vehicles visibility and may not fully alert other drivers that the vehicle is braking, turning, or reversing, increasing the risk of crash. The center high-mounted stop lamp (CHMSL) will continue to function.

**Description of the Cause :** The male and female tail lamp harness connectors terminals may not be

properly aligned. Attempting to join a connector with misaligned terminals during vehicle assembly can result in improperly seated terminals.

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** Cluster indicators will flash either fast or intermittently when the turn signal is used. Additionally, a trailer error message ("Trailer not connected") or a cluster display message ("Parking Aid Malfunction") may occur.

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : Sumitomo Electric Industries Group  
Address : 27360 Drake Rd  
Farmington Hills MICHIGAN 48178  
Country : United States

## Chronology :

### August – September

On August 29, 2019, a concern related to reports of inoperative Ranger tail lamps was brought to Ford's Critical Concern Review Group (CCRG) for review. Analysis of warranty reports appeared to identify a concern with the ground circuit terminal in an underbody mounted wire harness connector.

Analysis of vehicles exhibiting this condition found evidence of electrical connector terminal misalignment and potential stubbing when an underbody wire harness connector was connected during assembly.

### October – November

A vehicle clinic was conducted to further understand potential contributors and effects. Vehicles from a variety of production dates and mileages were inspected. None of the vehicles exhibited the concern and the related connectors were correctly seated on all units.

The field data continued to be monitored, and the majority of failures occurred after customer delivery. CCRG also confirmed that the condition could be intermittent. An updated statistical analysis indicated a gradually increasing rate of repairs.

On November 14, 2019, 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.

## 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 underbody inline connector inspected. If a loose terminal is identified, the terminals will be re-pinned into a replacement connector. 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 : Suspect parts may contain a quality concern where terminals may be misaligned and pushed out of an underbody wire harness connector. Terminal push out can result in the connector's terminal locking tab to break. A replacement connector will be provided, and the wire harness terminals re-pinned into the new connector.

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The connector's terminals were changed to a design with a leading edge that is less susceptible to misalignment and stubbing during assembly.

## Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers is expected to occur on November 22, 2019. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin January 6, 2020 and is expected to be completed by January 10, 2020.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 22, 2019 - NOV 22, 2019

Planned Owner Notification Date : JAN 06, 2020 - JAN 10, 2020

\* NR - Not Reported