

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

20V-726

Manufacturer Name : Ford Motor Company**Submission Date :** NOV 20, 2020**NHTSA Recall No. :** 20V-726**Manufacturer Recall No. :** 20S69**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 : 690

Estimated percentage with defect : 7 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2021-2021 Lincoln Aviator

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : 2021 model year vehicles with build dates from November 3, 2020 through November 13, 2020 are affected by this action. Ford's team reviewed supplier process and maintenance records to determine the population of affected knuckles. Ford's process was able to determine the build dates for vehicles that potentially have suspect knuckles installed.

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 : NOV 03, 2020 - NOV 13, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : These vehicles were produced with front knuckles that may have unacceptable voids.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : A knuckle with an unacceptable void may fracture while driving. Fracture of a front knuckle diminishes steering control, increasing the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : The supplier's risers in the molds solidified prematurely, resulting in insufficient material flow into the mold, which formed the voids.

Identification of Any Warning None
that can Occur :

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Front Knuckle

Component Description : Right Hand

Component Part Number : LC5C-3K185-AC

Component Name 2 : Front Knuckle

Component Description : Left Hand

Component Part Number : LC5C-3K186-AC

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : HITACHI METALS AMERICA LTD

Address : 1500 HEARTLAND BLVD
EFFINGHAM ILLINOIS 62401-4234

Country : United States

Chronology :

On November 13, 2020 Dakkota, who builds the front suspension, notified Ford's Chicago Assembly Plant that Hitachi Metals America shipped Aviator front knuckles with castings that may contain unacceptable voids. Hitachi Metals discovered the issue by visual inspection after machining the raw castings. The front knuckle casting voids are in the upper control arm attachment area. The supplier traced all knuckles with known voids to parts cast between October 22 and October 24, 2020. Seven percent of the knuckles from those production dates had unacceptable voids. Parts cast after October 24, 2020 have been 100% Ultrasonic Testing (UT) inspected with no unacceptable voids.

Hitachi 100% UT inspected and machined approx. 3100 knuckles that were cast in the previous batch with no unacceptable voids identified.

On November 20, 2020, 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 front knuckle inspected, and replaced 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 : If necessary, new parts without voids will be installed.

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

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Notification to dealers is expected to occur on November 20, 2020. Mailing of owner notification letters is expected to begin December 14, 2020 and is expected to be completed by December 18, 2020.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : NOV 20, 2020 - NOV 20, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : DEC 14, 2020 - DEC 18, 2020

* NR - Not Reported