



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**National Highway Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

March 11, 2015

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

NVS-215SM  
15E-014

**Subject:** Improper Fit of Replacement Steering Gears

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:**

MOTORCRAFT/STEERING GEAR STG-454/9999

**Mfr's Report Date:** February 27, 2015

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 15E-014

**Components:**

STEERING

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 1,608

**Problem Description:**

Ford Motor Company (Ford) is recalling certain Motorcraft STG-454 service replacement steering gears manufactured July 1, 2014, to October 17, 2014. These steering gears are for use on 2008-2010 model year F-250 and F-350 vehicles equipped with 6.4L diesel engines. The affected steering gears may not install properly, and as a result, there may be insufficient clamp load on the joints which may cause the steering gear retention bolts to fracture.

**Consequence:**

Steering gear retention bolt fractures may cause a loss of steering control, increasing the risk of a vehicle crash.

**Remedy:**

Ford will notify owners, and dealers will install a spacer between the steering gear and the vehicle frame rail to ensure adequate clamp load on the joints, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin April 20, 2015. Owners may contact Ford customer service at 1-866-436-7332. Ford's number for this recall is 15S08.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

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](mailto:sarah.mcshane@dot.gov) or through the office email at [rmd.odi@dot.gov](mailto:rmd.odi@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jennifer Timian  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement