

*Ford Motor Company*

L. W. Camp, Director  
Automotive Safety Office  
Environmental and Safety Engineering

August 4, 2000

00V-218 (01)

Mr. Kenneth N. Weinstein  
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Ford Motor Company submits the following information concerning a safety-compliance recall action that it is initiating.

573.5 (c)(2)

All 2000 model year Ford Focus 4-Door Sedans and 4-Door Wagons built at the Wayne Assembly Plant from July 19, 1999 (Job#1-Wayne)) through July 26, 2000, and all Focus 3-Door Sedans built at the Hermosillo Assembly Plant from October 4, 1999 (Job#1-Hermosillo) through July 31, 2000, are affected.

Because the 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 (1-800-392-3673), or by contacting a local Ford dealer who can obtain specific information regarding the vehicles from OASIS computer system.

573.5 (c)(3)

Approximately 351,000 vehicles are involved in this recall action.

573.5 (c)(4)

All of these vehicles are affected.

573.5 (c)(5)

On affected vehicles, the resultant HIC(d) value at one target location AP1, located on the trim panel at the juncture of the A-pillar and roof side rail, may be greater than design intent. The vehicles, therefore, may not satisfy the performance criteria of FMVSS 201 S7 at that point.

OFFICE  
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

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00V-218 (2)

573.5 (c)(7)

A 2000 model year Ford Focus 4-Door Sedan was tested by the agency's test contractor MGA on May 23, 2000 to the requirements of FMVSS 201. At impact target AP1 located on the right hand side A-pillar/roof rail area, the HIC(d) result exceeded that allowed by Standard 201. A previous NHTSA test by test contractor Veridian on March 14, 2000 produced a similar HIC(d) result at AP1, but was discounted by the agency as suspect data because of possible instrumentation problems. A subsequent Ford analysis concluded that the NHTSA tests did not satisfy a test parameter specified in Standard 201, and, therefore, neither result was valid. Subsequently, tests conducted by Ford of the Focus 4-Door and 3-Door Sedans on July 27 and July 31, 2000, during which all test parameters of Standard 201 were satisfied, produced AP1 HIC(d) values (1049, 1050, and 1105) in excess of that allowed by Standard 201. On the basis of these Ford tests on July 27 and July 31, 2000, Ford determined the existence of the subject non-compliance.

573.5 (c)(8)

Details of Ford's program for remedying this non-compliance have not been finalized at this time. This information will be provided to the agency in a supplemental document once available.

573.5 (c)(9)

Ford does not at this time plan to make a statement available to the media concerning the subject matter of this recall. Notification letters to dealers and customers from Ford Customer Service Division will be forwarded to the agency when available.

573.5 (c)(11)

Ford has assigned campaign number 00S20 to this action.

Very truly yours,



L. W. Camp

00S20.5d

*Ford Motor Company*

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OFFICE  
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

L. W. Camp, Director  
Automotive Safety Office  
Environmental and Safety Engineering

September 8, 2000

Mr. Kenneth N. Weinstein  
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

*00V-218  
Supplement*

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Subject: Ford Motor Company Recall 00S20 – 2000MY Focus – FMVSS 201

Re: Part 573 Notification dated August 4, 2000 submitted by Ford Motor Company

This letter supplements the referenced notification to the agency. It provides information that was not available for inclusion in the August 4, 2000 notification concerning the safety-compliance recall action that Ford is initiating. Specifically provided herein is information describing Ford's program for remedying the non-compliance as required by 573.5 (c) (8). Also included is a correction to the number of vehicles affected. With this submission, all information required by Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, has been provided.

573.5 (c)(3)

Approximately 278,500 vehicles are involved in this recall action. (The previously reported 351,000 affected vehicles included vehicles produced for markets other than the U.S. While the vehicles in these other markets will be repaired, they are not part of the U.S. market totals.)

573.5 (c)(4)

All of these vehicles are affected.

573.5 (c)(8)

Ford is not aware of any allegations of accidents or injuries related to this condition. Notification to owners of record of affected vehicles will begin on the dates shown below, with



notification completed within 30 days of these dates.

3-Door Sedan	November 16, 2000
4-Door Sedan & Wagon	December 29, 2000

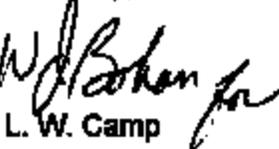
573.5 (c)(9)

Ford, at this time, does not plan to make a statement available to the media concerning the subject matter of this recall. Owners will be advised to contact their dealers to make arrangements for repair of their vehicles. The repairs will involve removing the left and right side B-pillar and A-pillar trim panels, revising the headliner edge near the tops of the A-pillars to accept the new A-pillar trim panels with their energy absorbing tubes, and installing the new A-pillar and the old B-pillar trim panels. These repairs will be at no cost to the customers.

573.5 (c)(11)

As previously indicated, Ford has assigned campaign number 00S20 to this action.

Sincerely,

  
L. W. Camp

00S20.5df

*Ford Motor Company*

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OFFICE  
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

L. W. Camp, Director  
Automotive Safety Office  
Environmental and Safety Engineering

September 6, 2000

Mr. Kenneth N. Weinstein  
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

00V-218  
Supplement

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

Subject: Ford Motor Company Recall 00S20 – 2000MY Focus – FMVSS 201

Re: Part 573 Notification dated August 4, 2000 submitted by Ford Motor Company

This letter supplements the referenced notification to the agency. It provides information that was not available for inclusion in the August 4, 2000 notification concerning the safety-compliance recall action that Ford is initiating. Specifically provided herein is information describing Ford's program for remedying the non-compliance as required by 573.5 (c) (8). Also included is a correction to the number of vehicles affected. With this submission, all information required by Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, has been provided.

573.5 (c)(3)

Approximately 276,500 vehicles are involved in this recall action. (The previously reported 351,000 affected vehicles included vehicles produced for markets other than the U.S. While the vehicles in these other markets will be repaired, they are not part of the U.S. market totals.)

573.5 (c)(4)

All of these vehicles are affected.

573.5 (c)(8)

Ford is not aware of any allegations of accidents or injuries related to this condition. Notification to owners of record of affected vehicles will begin on the dates shown below, with



notification completed within 30 days of these dates.

3-Door Sedan	November 16, 2000
4-Door Sedan & Wagon	December 29, 2000

573.5 (c)(9)

Ford, at this time, does not plan to make a statement available to the media concerning the subject matter of this recall. Owners will be advised to contact their dealers to make arrangements for repair of their vehicles. The repairs will involve removing the left and right side B-pillar and A-pillar trim panels, revising the headliner edge near the tops of the A-pillars to accept the new A-pillar trim panels with their energy absorbing tubes, and installing the new A-pillar and the old B-pillar trim panels. These repairs will be at no cost to the customers.

573.5 (c)(11)

As previously indicated, Ford has assigned campaign number 00S20 to this action.

Sincerely,

  
L. W. Camp

00S20.5df