

UFI Filters USA, Inc.

110 Firestone Pointe, Duluth, GA 30097, USA

Phone: (770)-813-0452, Fax: (770)-813-1713

July 18, 2006

Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Washington DC 20590

Dear Mr. Smith,

Sofima Automotive Filter [Shanghai] Company Ltd. (hereinafter Sofima) fabricates fuel filters. UFI Filters USA, Inc. is the U.S. affiliate of Sofima. UFI sells fuel filters in the United States fabricated by Sofima. Sofima has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in a fuel filter sold by UFI only to Purolator, (Purolator Part No. F65277). Sofima-UFI is filing this Defect Information Report in compliance with 49 CFR 573.6(c).

§ 573.6(c)-

(1) The manufacturer's name:

Sofima Automotive Filter [Shanghai] Company, Ltd.

The fuel filters are sold in the United States by UFI Filters USA, Inc., an affiliate of Sofima. UFI's contact is:

Christer Sundell,
President
UFI Filters USA, Inc.
110 Firestone Pointe
Duluth, GA 30097

(W) 770-813-0452

(2) Identification of the items of motor vehicle equipment potentially containing the defect

Fuel filter (Purolator Part No: F65277), sold only to Purolator Corporation as replacement equipment. All of these filters that have been sold to Purolator are subject to this recall. Production of this filter began in late 2005 and continued until May 2006. Purolator shipped the subject items of equipment from January 16 through June 2, 2006.

None of the items of equipment are purchased by vehicle manufacturers for use as original equipment.

(3) The total number of items of equipment potentially containing the defect:

There were 58,640 fuel filters part number F65277 sold. All were sold to Purolator for sales in the aftermarket.

(4) The percentage of items of equipment specified pursuant to paragraph (c)(2) of this section estimated to actually contain the defect.

While 100% of the filters contain the out-of-specification dimension, most will attach properly to the fuel line quick connector in the vehicle.

(5) A description of the defect:

Sofima Automotive Filter Company/UFI Filters USA has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain production runs of Sofima fuel filter part number 31.769.02, corresponding to Purolator part number F65277. The connector stem on these filters can be up to 0.040" in excess of the specified length. This will prevent certain 'quick' connect clips from functioning properly. If this condition occurs while attempting to start the vehicle, a no-start condition may result and fuel may be pumped out onto the ground. If this condition occurs while the vehicle is in motion, the engine may stop due to inadequate fuel supply. If an ignition source were present, fuel leakage may result in a fire.

(6) In the case of a defect, a chronology of all principal events:

05/31/06-A dimensional discrepancy was discovered during installation of a subject filter on a vehicle. Purolator was notified of the three incidents relating to a possible dimensional discrepancy on this day.

06/02/06-The dimensional discrepancy was confirmed by Purolator. Purolator notified Sofima/UFI of the stem condition that had been encountered.

06/06/06-Discussions were held between UFI and Purolator, and they made a decision to conduct a safety recall on the product in the field.

06/12/06-06/23/06—Testing was conducted regarding the fit of the subject filters tubes with the various quick connectors in the field.

06/13/06-UFI/Sofima filed an initial 573 report with NHTSA.

06/17/06-UFI filed an updated 573 report with NHTSA.

07/05/06-UFI and Purolator sent a draft of the proposed customer notice to NHTSA.

(8)(i) A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect.

UFI/Sofima will replace the subject fuel filters without cost to the customers with filters that have connectors that conform to SAE J2044.

(ii) The estimated date(s) on which it will begin sending notifications to owners, and to dealers and distributors, that there is a safety-related defect and that a remedy without charge will be available to owners, and the estimated date(s) on which it will complete such notifications (if different from the beginning date).

UFI expects to be able to begin this campaign sometime the week of July 17, 2006.

10) A representative copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser.

A copy of a stop-sale/delivery letter sent by Purolator to its customers is attached.

11) Except as authorized by the Administrator, the manufacturer shall submit a copy of its proposed owner notification letter:

The final copies of the Purolator customer notice and the UFI customer notice are also attached. In addition, a copy of the placard that will be displayed at the points of sale to the final customers is also attached.

(12) The manufacturer's campaign number:

UFI Filters USA, Inc. plans to use the NHTSA campaign number, 06E-056

Sincerely,



Christer Sundell

President, UFI Filters USA, Inc.

Purolator Filters NA LLC

Product Management Bulletin

Bulletin Number: FP06_09

June 8, 2006

CUSTOMER: Purolator Brand Customer # XXXX CUSTOMER NAME

SUBJECT Fuel Filter Part Number F65277

FROM: Filter Product Management

Purolator Products NA LLC has identified that select quantities of Purolator fuel filter part number F65277 have been manufactured with a possible nonconforming product design. The nonconforming fuel filters are used on a wide range of Ford, Jaguar, Lincoln, Mazda, and Mercury passenger car, SUV, and pick-up truck applications. Our records indicate that you have been shipped **XX** units of the suspect fuel filter. Purolator requests that you:

- Audit your Purolator F65277 fuel filter inventory
- Isolate, quarantine, and place on hold any of your F65277 Purolator inventories that are identified as **Made in China**
- Discontinue selling the isolated inventories to your customers
- Return the isolated units to Purolator using the attached RGA form

The root cause of the nonconformance is dimensional in nature; the connector stem can be up to 0.040 " in excess length and this will prevent certain 'quick' connect clips from functioning properly. The nonconforming fuel filters may leak and/or limit fluid flow to the engine, which may cause the vehicle engine to stall or become inoperative.

How to identify the suspect fuel filters

- Purolator filter part number F65277
- The filter metal body is black in color
- The filter country of origin '**Made in China**' is printed on the body of the filter

NOTE: F65277 stainless steel fuel filters with country of origin 'Made in USA' are not involved in this bulletin announcement and are acceptable to be sold

How to return the suspect fuel filters using the attached Return Goods Authorization (RGA)

1. If you have 125 or less units to return, call Purolator Customer Service (800-637-0580) and they will issue a UPS Call Tag for the units to be picked up at your location and shipped freight collect to Purolator; the suspect units will be picked up within the next 10 days.
2. If you have 126 or more units to return, contact your local Roadway terminal to arrange for a freight collect shipment to Purolator or visit their website at <http://www.roadway.com/tools/pu.html> to arrange for a freight collect shipment to Purolator.
 - When preparing your shipping container, mark the outside shipping container with the RGA# referenced in the attached RGA document.
 - Ship the isolated units of F65277 to Purolator NA LLC at the below address:
Purolator Filters NA LLC
3200 Natal Road
Fayetteville, NC 28306
Attn: Janice Wheeler
3. Upon receipt of the returned units, credit will be issued immediately.

At your earliest convenience please call Purolator Customer Service (800-637-0580) to order your replenishment supply of Purolator fuel filter F65277.

We thank you for your continued support and apologize for this inconvenience.

Ramón C. Núñez
Director, Product Management & Export Sales
Purolator Filters NA LLC



Purolator

**FUEL FILTER Safety Recall
Part Number: F65277**



UFI Filters USA is recalling Purolator fuel filter part number F65277, which was manufactured from January 16, 2006 through June 1, 2006. The suspect product can be identified by Part No. F65277. This fuel filter has a black metal body and is marked with the country of origin ('Made in China').

Purolator Filters NA LLC has been informed by the filter supplier, UFI Filters USA, that this filter was not manufactured to Purolator specifications and a defect, relating to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain production runs of fuel filter part number 31.769.02, sold as Purolator F65277. The root cause of the nonconformance is dimensional in nature; the connector stem can be up to 0.040" in excess length; and this will prevent certain 'quick' connect clips from functioning properly. If this condition occurs while attempting to start the vehicle, a no start condition may result, and fuel may be pumped out onto the ground. If this condition occurs while the vehicle is in motion, the engine may stop due to inadequate fuel supply and cause a loss of power steering assist. If an ignition source were present, fuel leakage may result in a fire.

Please return the fuel filter to the retailer or installer for credit and to receive replacement filters. If you have any questions, please contact UFI Filters USA at 800-230-5876.

UFI Filters USA, Inc., c/o Saddle Creek Copak at 3555 Shamrock Road, Harrisburg, NC 28075

Display until January, 2007

July 2006

Recall #06E-056



Purolator

Rappel de sécurité – FILTRE À CARBURANT
Numéro de pièce : F65277



UFI Filters USA effectue le rappel des filtres à carburant Purolator, pièce numéro F65277, fabriqués entre le 16 janvier 2006 et le 1^{er} juin 2006. Tout produit suspect peut être identifié par le numéro de pièce F65277. Ce filtre à carburant possède un corps métallique noir et il porte la mention du pays d'origine (« Made in China » – Fabriqué en Chine).

Purolator Filter NA LLC a été informée par le fournisseur du filtre, UFI Filters USA, que ce filtre n'avait pas été fabriqué conformément aux spécifications de Purolator, et qu'un défaut affectant la sécurité des véhicules à moteur existait dans certains lots de production du filtre à carburant avec le numéro de pièce 31.769.02, vendu en tant que numéro F65277 de Purolator. La cause origine de la non-conformité est de nature dimensionnelle : la tige du connecteur peut avoir une surdimension jusqu'à 0,040 po en longueur, ce qui empêche certains clips à connexion « rapide » de fonctionner correctement. Si cette condition survient en essayant de démarrer le véhicule, une condition de non-démarrage peut en résulter, et du carburant peut être pompé et se répandre sur le sol. Si cette condition survient lorsque le véhicule est en mouvement, le moteur peut s'arrêter à cause d'une alimentation de carburant inadéquate, et causer la perte de l'assistance de la servodirection. Si une source d'inflammation est présente, les fuites de carburant peuvent causer un incendie.

Veillez retourner le filtre à carburant au détaillant ou à l'installateur pour recevoir un crédit et des filtres de rechange. Pour toute question, veuillez contacter la UFI Filters USA au 800-230-5876.

UFI Filters USA, Inc., c/o Saddle Creek Copak at 3555 Shamrock Road, Harrisburg, NC 28075

À afficher jusqu'en janvier 2007

Juillet 2006

Rappel n° 06E-056

July 16, 2006

TO: All Purchasers of Purolator Filters NA LLC Part number F65277 Manufactured by Sofima automotive Filter Company (UFI Filters USA, Inc.)

**NOTICE: Sofima Automotive Filter Company (UFI Filters USA, Inc.)
Fuel Filter Recall - NHTSA Recall 06E-056**

Dear Purolator Filters NA LCC Customer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Sofima Automotive Filter Company/UFI Filters USA, Inc. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain production runs of Sofima Automotive Filter Company fuel filter part number 31.769.02, corresponding to Purolator Part Number F65277. The connector stem on these filters can be up to 0.040" in excess of the specified length. This will prevent certain 'quick' connect clips from functioning properly. If this condition occurs while attempting to start the vehicle, a no start condition may result and fuel may be pumped out onto the ground. If this condition occurs while the vehicle is in motion, the engine may stop due to inadequate fuel supply. If an ignition source were present, fuel leakage may result in a fire.

Identification of fuel filter covered by the recall:

The Sofima filters were shipped by Purolator Filters NA LLC to its customers between January 16, 2006 and June 1, 2006. The suspect filters can be identified as follows:

- Purolator filter part number F65277, and
- The filter metal body is black in color, and
- The filter country of origin '**Made in China**' is printed on the body of the filter

NOTE: Part Number F65277 stainless steel fuel filters with country of origin 'Made in USA**' are not involved in this recall.**

WHAT WILL BE DONE?

Sofima/UFI Filters will replace filters subject to this recall free of cost. You may return the filter to the place that you purchased it to receive a replacement filter for which you will be reimbursed by Sofima/UFI Filters. If the subject filter has been installed on a vehicle, you may take the vehicle to a service facility of your choice, and Sofima/UFI Filters will reimburse you for the cost of the replacement filter and a reasonable amount for the cost for installation of a new filter, based upon Chilton standard hourly times for fuel filter replacement.

To receive reimbursement for the parts and service, the customer should provide all of the following information to **UFI Filters USA, Inc. c/o Saddle Creek Copak at 3555 Shamrock Road, Harrisburg, NC 28075.**

- Customer name;
- Vehicle Make and Model;
- VIN;
- Date Code of the Replaced Part; and
- A copy of your invoice(s) for the replacement part and installation.

Please remember, the only recalled filter is Purolator filter part number F65277. The filter metal body is black in color. The filter country of origin 'Made in China' is printed on the body of the filter.

Communication:

If you conclude that Sofima/UFI Filters has not enabled you to remedy this condition in a reasonable time, you may call Sofima/UFI Filters at 1-800-230-5876. If you are still not satisfied, you may submit a complaint to the:

Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

- or -

Call the toll free Vehicle Safety Hotline: 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 800-424-9153): or go to
<http://www.safercar.gov>.

We regret any inconvenience that this situation may cause. Purolator and Sofima/UFI Filters want to assure you that we are concerned for customer safety and your continued satisfaction with our products.

Sincerely,
UFI Filters, USA

July 16, 2006

TO: Purchasers from Purolator of Purolator Filters NA LLC Part number F65277 Manufactured by Sofima Automotive Filter Company (UFI Filters USA, Inc.)

**NOTICE: Sofima Automotive Filter Company (UFI Filters USA, Inc.)
Fuel Filter Recall - NHTSA Recall 06E-056**

Dear Purolator Filters NA LLC Customer:

Name
Address
Address

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Sofima Automotive Filter Company/UFI Filters USA, Inc. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain production runs of Sofima Automotive Filter Company fuel filter part number 31.769.02, corresponding to Purolator Part Number F65277. The connector stem on these filters can be up to 0.040" in excess of the specified length. This will prevent certain 'quick' connect clips from functioning properly. If this condition occurs while attempting to start the vehicle, a no start condition may result and fuel may be pumped out onto the ground. If this condition occurs while the vehicle is in motion, the engine may stop due to inadequate fuel supply. If an ignition source were present, fuel leakage may result in a fire.

Identification of fuel filters covered by the recall:

The Sofima Filters were shipped by Purolator Filters NA LLC to its customers between January 16, 2006 and June 1, 2006. Purolator records attached with this notice indicate that these suspect products were shipped to you. The suspect filters can be identified as follows:

- Purolator filter part number F65277, and
- The filter metal body is black in color, and
- The filter country of origin '**Made in China**' is printed on the body of the filter

NOTE: Part Number **F65277 stainless steel fuel filters with country of origin 'Made in USA'** are not involved in this bulletin announcement and are acceptable to be sold.

RECOMMENDED ACTION REGARDING UNSOLD PRODUCT
(NEW PRODUCT THAT HAS NOT BEEN INSTALLED)

1. If you have 125 or less units to return, call Purolator Customer Service (800-637-0580) and they will issue a UPS Call Tag for the units to be picked up at your location and shipped freight collect to Purolator; the suspect units will be picked up within the next 10 days.

2. If you have 126 or more units to return, contact your local Roadway terminal to arrange for a freight collect shipment to Purolator or visit their website at <http://www.roadway.com/tools/pu.html> to arrange for a freight collect shipment to Purolator.
 - When preparing your shipping container, mark the outside shipping container with the RGA# referenced in the attached RGA document.
 - Ship the isolated units of F65277 to Purolator NA LLC at the below address:
Purolator Filters NA LLC
3200 Natal Road
Fayetteville, NC 28306
Attn: Janice Wheeler
3. Upon receipt of the returned units, credit will be issued immediately.
4. Submit a replenishment order during your next regular order cycle.

RECOMMENDED ACTION REGARDING SOLD PRODUCTS

If you have sold one or more of the filters subject to the recall, you should attempt to notify your customer(s) to return the part for a replacement filter, free of charge. Please refer to the "SAFETY RECALL PLACEMENT FUEL FILTER NOTICE" placard, enclosed with this letter. This placard should be prominently displayed at all the retail locations where the filter was sold. In addition, attached is a customer letter that you can send to any of your customers.

As stated in the enclosed letter, Sofima Automotive Filter Company/UFI Filters USA, Inc. will reimburse those customers who have the suspect filters for the cost of the replacement filter and a reasonable amount for installation of the new filter, based upon Chilton standard hourly times for fuel filter replacement. To receive reimbursement for the parts and service, the customer should provide all of the following information to **UFI Filters USA, Inc. c/o Saddle Creek Copak at 3555 Shamrock Road, Harrisburg, NC 28075.**

- Customer name;
- Vehicle Make and Model;
- VIN;
- Date Code of the Replaced Part; and
- A copy of your invoice (for the replacement part and installation).

If you do not have service capabilities and your customer wants a service facility to install the filter, please provide them with the attached letter that states that they may have their filter installed by a service facility of their choice, and that Sofima/UFI Filters will reimburse them for the cost of the replacement filter and a reasonable amount for the costs of filter installation.

Please remember, the only recalled filter is Purolator filter part number F65277. The filter metal body is black in color. The filter country of origin 'Made in China' is printed on the body of the filter.

Communication:

If you conclude that Sofima/UFI Filters has not enabled you to remedy this condition in a reasonable time, you may call Sofima/UFI Filters at 1-800-230-5876. If you are still not satisfied, you may submit a complaint to the:

Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

- or -

Call the toll free Vehicle Safety Hotline: 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 800-424-9153); or go to
<http://www.safercar.gov>.

We regret any inconvenience that this situation may cause. Purolator and Sofima/UFI Filters want to assure you that we are concerned for customer safety and your continued satisfaction with our products.

Sincerely,
Purolator Filters NA LLC

Enclosures

- SAFETY RECALL PLACARD
- SAFETY RECALL NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS



Purolator

**Retiro del mercado por consideraciones
de seguridad de FILTRO DE COMBUSTIBLE
Pieza Número: F65277**



UFI Filters USA está retirando del Mercado el filtro de combustible Purolator pieza número F65277, que fue fabricada desde el 16 de enero de 2006 hasta el 1 de junio de 2006. El producto dudoso se puede identificar mediante el número de pieza F65277. Este filtro de combustible tiene un cuerpo metálico negro y está marcado con el país de origen ("Made in China").

El proveedor de filtros de Purolator Filters NA LLC, UFI Filters USA, ha informado que este filtro no ha sido fabricado de acuerdo a las especificaciones de Purolator y que existe un defecto en el producto, relacionado con la seguridad del vehículo automotor, en ciertos lotes producidos del filtro de combustible con pieza número 31.769.02, que se vende como Purolator F65277. La causa fundamental del incumplimiento son las dimensiones; el vástago conector puede ser hasta 0.040 pulg. demasiado largo; y esto evitará que algunos clips de conexión "rápida" funcionen correctamente. Si esto ocurre mientras se trata de poner en marcha el vehículo, podría resultar en que el mismo no arranque, y que se bombee combustible al piso. Si se crea esta situación mientras que el vehículo está en movimiento, es posible que deje de funcionar el motor debido al suministro indebido de combustible y es posible que cause la pérdida de la dirección asistida. Si hubiera presente una fuente de encendido, la fuga de combustible podría resultar en un incendio.

Por favor devuelva el filtro de combustible al minorista o instalador para que le emitan un crédito y para recibir filtros de reemplazo. Si tiene preguntas, por favor, comuníquese con UFI Filters USA llamando al 800-230-5876.

UFI Filters USA, Inc., c/o Saddle Creek Copak at 3555 Shamrock Road, Harrisburg, NC 28075

Exhibir hasta enero de 2007

Julio de 2006

Retiro de mercado Número 06E-056