



STATEMENT

Contact: George Gilbert
313.248.8639
ggilber1@ford.com

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REPLACEMENT AUTOMOTIVE LIGHTING PRODUCTS

NOTE TO EDITOR: *Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 108 is the standard established by the Federal Government to reduce traffic accidents, and deaths and injuries resulting from traffic accidents, by providing adequate illumination of the roadway, and by enhancing the conspicuity of motor vehicles on the public roads so that their presence is perceived and their signals understood, both in daylight and in darkness or other conditions of reduced visibility.*

DEARBORN, Mich. – Ford Motor Company recommends that only Genuine Ford Original Equipment replacement lighting products – headlamps, taillamps and side markers – be used when replacement of these parts is necessary on any Ford, Lincoln or Mercury vehicle.

All Genuine Ford replacement lighting products are the same as those installed at the time we manufacture new vehicles and meet all Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS).

Ford has adopted this position because it cannot be confident of the performance of new aftermarket (imitation) lighting products. Recent independent tests have shown that certain imitation headlamp assemblies do not meet FMVSS standards, which has caused certain insurance companies to limit the use of these products for collision repairs.

– continued –

In addition, imitation lighting products are not covered by Ford Motor Company's new vehicle service part or corrosion warranty, or any variety of the Ford Extended Service Plan. In addition, any damage to or failure of a Ford part caused by the installation or improper performance of an imitation lighting product is not covered by Ford Motor Company's new vehicle service part or corrosion warranty, or any variety of the Ford Extended Service Plan.

However, the use of an imitation lighting product for collision repair does not, in itself, void Ford Motor Company's new vehicle service part or corrosion warranty, or any variety of the Ford Extended Service Plan. Warranty coverages for the rest of the vehicle, excluding the imitation lighting part itself, remain in effect.

To protect the safety and interests of vehicle owners, Ford strongly recommends that repairers:

- Check with auto insurance companies to determine their specific policy regarding the use of imitation lighting products.
- If imitation lighting products are recommended for repairs by auto insurers, advise vehicle owners to assure they agree with the decision.

Ford believes that the interests of all parties are best protected when informed vehicle owners are allowed to choose the type of replacement parts that will be used for repairs to their vehicles.

###

Collision Repair Note

Recycled, salvaged, aftermarket and reconditioned parts (including body parts, wheels and safety restraint components) are not authorized by Ford. Departure from the instructions provided in the Ford Workshop Manual, including alternate repair methods or the use of substitute components, risks compromising crash safety. Failure to follow these instructions may adversely affect structural integrity and crash safety performance, which could result in serious personal injury to vehicle occupants in a crash.