

Brazilian News

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Risk of Wheel Bolts Loosening Results in Recall of Ford Fusion Imported to Brazil



More than 32 thousand units of Ford Fusion “made in Mexico” during 2014-2018 sold to Brazil, are involved inside the same big recall that hit around 1.4 million from this model and another similar model, the Lincoln MKZ, in USA.

According to the Automaker, the technical reason is the possibility to cause a loss of fastening force of the bolt that keeps the steering wheel to the steering column of the vehicle securely. In this situation, the driver will initially notice a vertical oscillation of the steering wheel and, in case of prolonged use of the vehicle; the steering column steering wheel could detach. The repair and replacement of the bolt is fast and will take just 20 minutes.

Max Del Celebrates Acquisition of IATF 16949 Certification

The successor of ISO/TS 16949 certification, the IATF 16949 is the group of standards in quality management systems essential for companies (such as auto parts) to become or keep being suppliers for automakers from French, Germany, Italy and North America, which are members of the International Automotive Task Force.

IATF 16949 focuses on risk management, which consists of the application of strategic plans for risk-generating situations, such as customers’ line stops, receiving inadequate components and even production, shutdown of a key machine, strikes, transport, power outages and others.

Having been manufacturing metal fasteners (such as bolts, screws, rivets, pins, shafts and other products) made from wire rod for over 40 years, the Max Del still could wait some time before the audit starts, but its team chiefs anticipated the demands and successfully received the IATF 16949:2016 certification before the end of May, a moment of celebration for all. This company has other important certifications, such as ISO 14000, OHS 18001 and CQI - 9, a level of certifications beyond some multinationals established in Brazil.

Brazilian Fastener Import Grows 9.2% in 2018

The effects caused by a strike of the transport sector occurred last May are, of course, not considered. However, the activities in Brazil continue oscillating, but on a growing trend. Whoever disagrees, consult our source, the Ministry of Industry, Foreign Trade and Services (MDIC). As it produces more, the country consumes more, which expands activities for all, including the consumption of fasteners, whether produced domestically or imported. The monthly average of fasteners imported in 2018 exceeds the figure recorded in 2017 by 9.2% in ton, and the same thing happened in monetary value, with a 13.98% increase of purchases in US dollars. Dividing the total registered by the MDIC, in 2017 a little over US\$ 595.55 million (US \$ 49.6 million/month) was destined for this importation segment, corresponding to 112,192 tons (9,349 tons/month). From January to May 2018, the MDIC recorded US\$ 282.85 million (US\$ 56.57 million/month), corresponding to 51,061.192 tons (10,212 tons/month).

The upcoming audits will show how much the transport strike has rocked the market. Historically, the second half of a year in Brazilian economy is often better than the first half, and if the scenario keeps so, it will be so good, especially if we compare the clouded and recent times.

Fastener import: monthly average	In value	In ton
2017	US\$ 49.63 million	9,349.36 tons
2018	US\$ 56.57 million	10,212.28 tons

Source: www.mdic.gov.br

