Ford PRO™ Insure

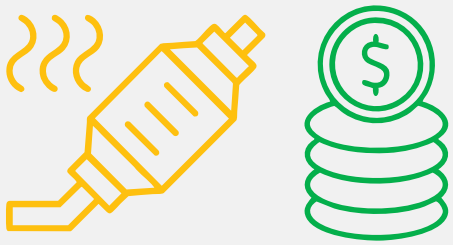
Commercial auto insurance from Ford subsidiary The American Road Insurance Company

Mitigating the Risk of Catalytic Converter Theft

Catalytic converter theft has become a prevalent issue across the nation, leaving vehicle owners facing significant financial burdens and inconvenience. But proactive measures can deter crime and protect your investments.

Understanding the Motive

Catalytic converters contain precious metals, including platinum, palladium, and rhodium, which are highly valued in the recycling market. This economic incentive drives the theft of these components, making them a lucrative target for criminals.



Insurance claims for these thefts increased from

16,660

claims in 2020 to

64,701

claims in 2022.*

This trend is expected to increase as the value of the precious metals increases.

Identifying Vulnerable Vehicles

While any vehicle equipped with a catalytic converter is susceptible to theft, certain factors increase vulnerability:

AGE — Older vehicles often possess less robust security features, making their converters more accessible.

VEHICLE TYPE — SUVs and trucks, due to their higher ground clearance, present easier access to the converter.

EASE OF REMOVAL — Certain vehicle models have converters that are more readily detachable, making them more attractive targets.

*Source: NICB's News Release, May 10, 2023.

Ford PRO Insure

Commercial auto insurance from
Ford subsidiary The American Road
Insurance Company

Effective Prevention Strategies

1. **Secure Parking Environments:**
Parking in well-lit, secure garages or parking lots discourages theft attempts.

2. **VIN Etching:**
Engraving your vehicle identification number (VIN) onto the catalytic converter assists law enforcement in identifying and returning stolen components.

3. **Catalytic Converter Shields:**
These protective cages encase the converter, creating a physical barrier against removal.

4. **Motion Sensor Alarms:**
Motion sensor alarms can alert you and nearby residents to any tampering attempts on your vehicle.

5. **Advanced Security Systems:**
Comprehensive security systems offer an additional layer of protection and deter potential thieves.

6. **High-Traffic Parking:**
Parking in busy, well-populated areas deters theft due to increased visibility.

7. **Vehicle Elevation:**
If possible, elevate your vehicle on a driveway or parking blocks to hinder access to the undercarriage.

Looking Forward

Catalytic converter theft is a growing concern, but responsible preventative measures can significantly reduce your risk of becoming a victim. By implementing these strategies and remaining vigilant, you can protect your vehicle and minimize the impact of this crime.

Catalytic Converter Thefts Surge Nationwide, According To New Report | National Insurance Crime Bureau (nicb.org)