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SALES

June 15, 2001

Mr. K. N. Weinstein
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W., Room 5321
Washington, D.C. 20590

01V-200 ①

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

This letter is submitted to provide notice to the agency that GM will conduct a safety related recall of certain 1996-97 T utility model vehicles. GM will conduct this field action as a safety campaign and will provide appropriate quarterly reports.

573.5(c)(1): Chevrolet, Oldsmobile and GMC Divisions of the General Motors Corporation.

573.5(c)(2)(3)(4): This information is shown on the attached sheet.

573.5(c)(5): General Motors has decided that there is no unreasonable risk to safety involved in this situation, but we have nevertheless decided to conduct this voluntary recall with no admission of safety-related defect under the safety act. In particular, the mailing of owner letters containing statements required by 49 C.F.R. 577 is not intended, and should not be construed to be, evidence of any General Motors decision that a safety defect exists in these vehicles. Rather, the purpose of this recall is to resolve the open NHTSA investigation of 1996 and 1997 T utility model trucks for ball joint wear.

The T-truck upper ball joint (P/N 17980735) has been used in vehicle production since the 1984 model year. GM has identified only 16 reports of "loss of control" allegedly caused by ball joint separation for the past 17 years of field exposure. GM has identified only 3 reports of minor injuries allegedly caused by ball joint separation. None of the injury reports indicate that medical treatment was required. The real world "laboratory" test of 3,490,330 vehicles over the past 17 years (approximately 30 million vehicle-years) has resulted in no serious consequences.

The safety recall will include 1996 and 1997 T 105*6 utilities built in the months of November 1995, June 1996, and October 1996 and located in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Washington D.C., Delaware, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

573.5(c)(6): The following chronology of principal events led to the determination of a defect:

- March 8, 1999: NHTSA opened a defect investigation on 4WD 1996 T model utility trucks.
- March 11, 1999: NHTSA Information Request (IR) PE99-021 (GM-556) received by General Motors.
- May 27, 1999: GM response to PE99-021 was sent to NHTSA.

Product Investigations

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2016.doc



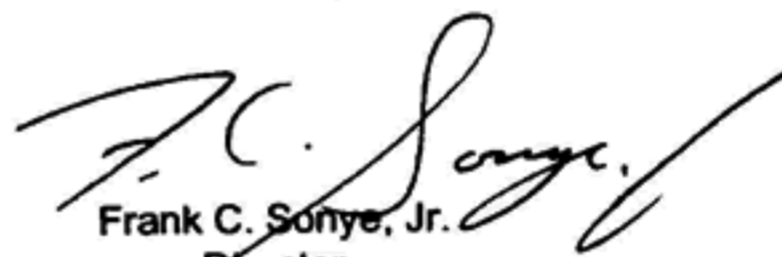
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- July 30, 1999: The NHTSA investigation was upgraded to an Engineering Analysis EA99-022 (GM556A).
- January 26, 2000: GM sent response for EA99-022 to NHTSA.
- June 8, 2001: FPE report prepared for Senior Management Committee.
- June 13, 2000: Decision made to conduct a safety recall.

573.5(c)(8): General Motors is currently developing a service procedure to remedy this condition. This information will be sent forth in the dealer bulletin.

573.5(c)(9): General Motors will notify NHTSA when parts are available and the campaign mailing dates are determined. Draft copies of the owner letter and the dealer bulletin will be forwarded when available.

Sincerely,



Frank C. Snye, Jr.
Director
Product Investigations

2016 / 01048
Attachments

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573.5(c)(2),(3),(4)

VEHICLES POTENTIALLY AFFECTED BY MAKE, MODEL, AND MODEL YEAR
PLUS INCLUSIVE DATES OF MANUFACTURE

| MAKE | MODEL SERIES | MODEL YEAR | NUMBER INVOLVED | INCLUSIVE MANUFACTURING DATES | | DESCRIPTIVE INFO. TO PROPERLY IDENT. VEH. | EST. NO. W/CONDITION |
|--------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|------|---|----------------------|
| | | | | (FROM) | (TO) | | |
| Chevrolet | T | 1996 | 0 | 0/00 | 0/00 | Blazer | * Unknown |
| Chevrolet | T | 1997 | 0 | 0/00 | 0/00 | Blazer | " |
| GMC | T | 1996 | 0 | 0/00 | 0/00 | Jimmy | " |
| GMC | T | 1997 | 0 | 0/00 | 0/00 | Jimmy | " |
| Oldsmobile | T | 1996 | 0 | 0/00 | 0/00 | Bravada | " |
| Oldsmobile | T | 1997 | 0 | 0/00 | 0/00 | Bravada | " |
| Grand Total: | | | 48,600 | | | | |

2016 / 01048

01V-200 ③

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RECALL CAMPAIGNS

NAME OF MANUFACTURER : GM

SUBJECT OF RECALL : UPPER/LOWER CONTROL ARM

RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER : 01V-200

ACTION THAT INFLUENCED RECALL

ODI INFLUENCED:

ACTION NO. : EA99-022

VID/VCD/MHDVD INVESTIGATOR : P.KIVETT

DRIAD INVESTIGATOR :

OVSC INFLUENCED:

ACTION NO. :

OVSC INVESTIGATOR :

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