



October 27, 2000

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

00V-345
(3 pages)

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

The following information is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR 573.5 as it applies to a decision by General Motors of a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety involving certain 1999 and 2000 CK model trucks.

573.5(c)(1): Chevrolet 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 a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 1999-2000 Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra pickup trucks; and 2000 Chevrolet Tahoe and Suburbans; and GMC Yukon and Yukon XL vehicles. Some of these vehicles have a clearance condition between the front right-hand brake pipe and the body cross sill that may decrease to the point of allowing contact during the life of the vehicle. If contact occurs and the brake pipe becomes damaged, in half of the brake system there can be a loss of brake fluid and pressure. The brake warning lamp will be activated when the brake fluid level reaches the indicator limit. During braking, the pedal will be lower than normal and stopping distances will be longer. If this occurs when stopping distance is limited, a crash could occur.

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

- September 14, 1999: An Incident Report was issued on a 2001 prototype K2500 Utility vehicle. The DRE (Design Responsible Engineer) began analyzing the cause of a leaking brake pipe.
- It was later determined that the 1999 and 2000 K2500 series pickup truck had the same design in the area of the potential contact, but the assembly had a different part number due to a difference in clips and the presence of a heat shield. It was then determined that the C/K 1500 series pickup and utility had nearly the same pipe design and routing in the area of the potential contact.
- Engineering investigation determined that the cab mounts could decrease in height over time. Vehicle test results from four-post test simulation and vehicle durability indicates that the cab mount may decrease from 48mm to 40mm (8mm) on average and as much as 48mm to 37 mm (11mm) during a simulated life of the vehicle. A design study using nominal design dimensions and assuming totally worn out body mounts (metal-to-metal, 11.5mm drop) shows clearance is approximately 1.0 mm for the K2500 series and approximately 3.0mm for the C/K 1500 series. Variation from nominal design conditions plus dynamic conditions could cause contact between the sill and the brake pipe.
- March 2, 2000: Engineering presented the potential contact condition on the 2500 series at the FPE Director's meeting.

Product Investigations

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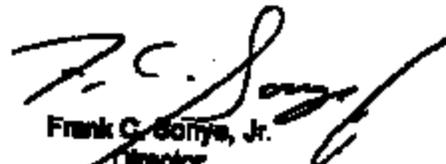


- September, 2000: Preparing draft FPE report, obtaining vehicle counts, drafting dealer bulletin and owner letter for possible field action.
- October 17, 2000: FPE report to SMC for recommendation.
- October 21, 2000: The decision was made to conduct a safety recall.

573.5(c)(8): This information is included in service procedure of the attached dealer campaign bulletin.

573.5(c)(9): Draft copies of the owner letter and the dealer bulletin are attached. GM plans to begin this campaign in December 2000. Final copies of the owner letter and dealer bulletin will be forwarded to NHTSA when they are available.

Sincerely,


Frank C. Sany, Jr.
Director
Product Investigations

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Attachments

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

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

<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL SERIES</u>	<u>MODEL YEAR</u>	<u>NUMBER INVOLVED</u>	<u>INCLUSIVE MANUFACTURING DATES</u> <u>(FROM) (TO)</u>		<u>DESCRIPTIVE INFO. TO PROPERLY IDENT. VEH.</u>	<u>EST. NO. W/CONDITION</u>
Chevrolet	CK	1999	420,578	4/98	7/99	Silverado	* Unknown
Chevrolet	CK	2000	624,491	2/99	8/00	Silverado, Tahoe & Suburban	-
GMC	CK	1999	140,489	4/98	7/99	Sierra	-
GMC	CK	2000	<u>188,364</u>	3/99	6/00	Sierra, Yukon & Yukon XL	-
Grand Total:			1,383,922				

* All affected vehicles will be corrected.

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