

UCI-FRAM Group

August 9, 2013

Via Email: RMD.ODI@dot.gov

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

The following information is submitted in accordance with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's defect reporting regulations, 49 CFR § 573.6. This report relates to certain replacement fuel pumps.

1. Identification of the manufacturer, § 573.6(c)(1)

Airtex Products, LP

2. Identification of the Equipment, § 573.6(c)(2)

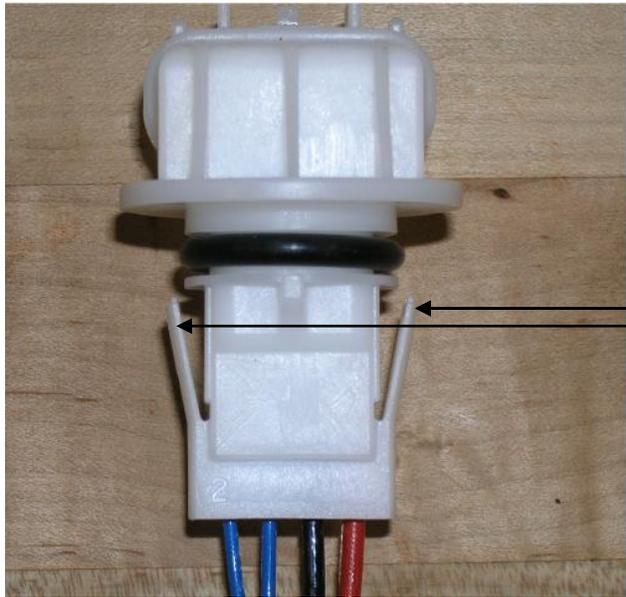
This report applies to a replacement fuel pump model number E3591M. The pump fits certain General Motors vehicles, including the Chevrolet Malibu (2004 to 2008), Pontiac G6 (2005 to 2008), and Saturn Aura (2007 and 2008).

3. Number of Items of Equipment Containing the Defect, § 573.6(c)(3),(4)

The pumps that are the subject of this report were first manufactured by Airtex on June 10, 2013. Previously, the pump was purchased from another manufacturer and re-sold by Airtex. Additional dates of production include June 24, June 25, and July 11, 2013. In total, **145** were manufactured. Airtex has determined that 100% of the pumps manufactured by Airtex may be non-conforming.

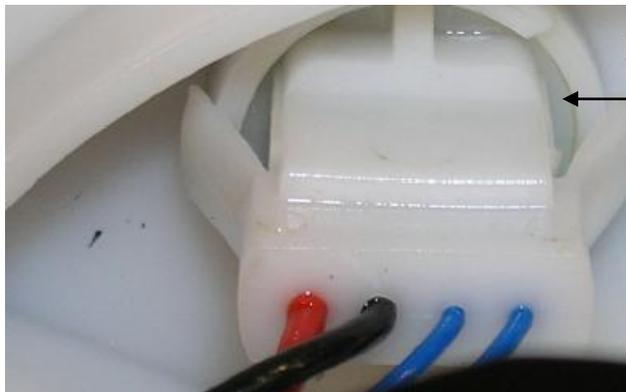
4. Description of the defect and affected population, §§ 573.6(c)(4), (5)

The E3591M has a newly-designed electrical connector that links the motor and sensors which are situated inside the fuel tank to the vehicle's electrical supply. The only product that Airtex has sold and which uses this affected electrical connector is the E3591M. The connector has plastic tabs (see, fig.1) that may not engage because they may not properly align (see, fig. 2), or break during assembly or during shipment. If the tabs are not engaged, the connector will not properly seal (see, fig. 3).



Depiction of Tabs

Figure 1



Tabs Not Engaged

Figure 2



Failure to Seal

Figure 3

The resulting lack of seal may allow fuel to escape when the tank is full. Airtex has not received any reports of failures in installed pumps or any reports of leaking fuel. However, based on its investigation, Airtex believes that the 145 non-conforming pumps it manufactured may fail in this manner.

5. Chronology of Events, § 573.6(c)(6)

- July 17, 2013: The fuel leak identified with installed pump during quality testing
- July 17, 2013: Airtex begins internal testing
- July 23, 2013: Customers notified to quarantine inventory
- July 29, 2013: Airtex stops shipping all E3591M Fuel Pumps
- August 1, 2013: Testing and root cause analysis completed
- August 1, 2013: Airtex begins recovery efforts of customer's quarantined inventory

6. Description of the Remedy Program, §§ 573.6(c)(9)(10)

Of the total 145 non-confirming pumps that Airtex manufactured, 141 were shipped to Airtex customers, which include large, chain store automotive retailers and distributors who resell the pumps to local stores and mechanics (i.e. installers). The remaining 4 pumps had not been shipped and remain in Airtex's possession and have been quarantined.

The remedy program will consist of no cost replacement of un-installed fuel pumps as well as an inspection and replacement program for any E3591M Fuel Pump installed between June 10, 2013 and August 16, 2013. To date, many customers have received notice to quarantine un-installed pumps with package date codes 243, 263, 283 and 293. Airtex is taking steps to sort these products and replace potentially defective pumps with conforming pumps at no charge.

To date, Airtex has identified 135 installers who may have purchased a E3591M fuel pump for installation during the recall period. Airtex will individually notify these installers of the recall and remedy program by mail. Installers will be instructed to provide Airtex with contact information for customers who had installed a E3591 Fuel Pump. Airtex will also provide installers with instructions to inspect installed pumps, and if necessary, replace non-conforming pumps that may have been installed Airtex will pay installers their usual and customary rates for inspecting or inspecting and replacing potentially defective units and will provide replacement fuel pumps at no cost.

Airtex will send a direct letter to consumers who may have purchased an E3591M fuel pump at retail and for whom the retailers have provided contact information. As of this filing, Airtex has identified 10 such owners. If the consumer has not installed the fuel pump, Airtex will provide the consumers with a free replacement and arrange for a return of the uninstalled pump at Airtex's expense.

If the pump has been installed, Airtex will arrange for an inspection of the pump, and if necessary, a replacement of the pump. Airtex will pay the costs of inspection and replacement.

Finally, Airtex will post notice of this recall and available remedies on its website.

7. Notification materials, § 577.11

Copies of the notice that Airtex will post on its Website, the proposed customer notification, the proposed professional installer notification and the proposed consumer notification are all enclosed. Airtex is prepared to proceed with its notification program following your approval of these communications.

* * *

Please provide the recall campaign number and direct all communications relating to this matter to the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey R. Mathis". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Jeffrey R. Mathis
Assistant General Counsel
UCI-FRAM Group
1900 West Field Court (4W-530)
Lake Forest, Illinois 60445
(847) 482-4482
Jeff.Mathis@uci-fram.com