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By Recall Management Division at 5:57 am, Aug 15, 2013

August 14, 2013

Ms. Nancy Lewis  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE – Room W45-306  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. Lewis:

The following information is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 as it applies to a determination by General Motors to conduct a safety related recall for certain 2011-2012 model year Chevrolet Cruze vehicles equipped with 1.4L Dual Overhead Cam (DOHC) Gasoline Turbo Engine (LUJ) and 6T40 FWD Automatic Transmission (MH8).

573.6(c)(5): General Motors has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2011–2012 model year Chevrolet Cruze vehicles equipped with 1.4L DOHC Gasoline Turbo Engine (LUJ) and 6T40 FWD Automatic Transmission (MH8). This engine-transmission combination requires supplemental vacuum under certain operating conditions. The electric vacuum pump (EVP) provides the supplemental vacuum, and if this is not available, brake assist may be intermittently reduced or lost requiring extra brake pedal effort. If this happens while the vehicle is moving, a crash could result without prior warning.

573.6(c)(1): Chevrolet Brand of General Motors Company

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

573.6(c)(6): On July 3, 2012, GMNA became aware of a field product report issued for a brake performance complaint. A part return request was initiated for brake system components and on August 2, 2012, a GM Product Investigations engineer was assigned to investigate. Late August 2012, GM issued a technical service bulletin to assist dealers in diagnosing customer or technician comments stating a hard brake pedal at start up or while idling.

In October 2012, sample brake components were collected from GM company owned vehicles and were found to be performing properly. Analysis of warranty at that time found one claim stating the driver backed into another vehicle. Starting November 1, 2012, several Red-X teams were formed to work on projects to determine reasons for loss of brake assist. The teams discovered silicon residue on the switch contacts.



In January and February, GM worked with the switch supplier to understand the source of silicon off-gassing in addition to monitoring field reports for any increase in trend over the next few months. During the months of June and July 2013, the incident rate of complaints increased.

A comprehensive review of warranty and field report verbatims conducted in July identified a total of 27 potentially related reports with allegations of low speed crashes with no injuries in driveways and parking lots on the subject vehicles. It was further determined using detailed engine vacuum mapping, that this issue is specific to the integrated combination of the LUJ/MH8 engine/transmission. If the supplemental vacuum is not available, there may be driving conditions where there may be no vacuum brake assist.

The issue was presented to the Field Performance Evaluation Review Committee and on August 7, 2013, the Executive Field Action Decision Committee decided to conduct a safety recall.

573.6(c)(8): Dealers will remove and replace a microswitch in the power brake vacuum pipe assembly.

GM will notify NHTSA when mail dates are available.

Pursuant to 577.11(e), GM will provide reimbursement to owners for repairs completed on or before ten days after the owner mailing is completed, according to the plan submitted on May 23, 2013.

573.6(c)(10): GM will provide copies of the dealer bulletin and owner letter when available.

Sincerely,



M. Carmen Benavides, Director  
Product Investigations and Safety Regulations

12213  
Attachment

573.6(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 (FROM) (TO)</u>	<u>DESCRIPTIVE INFO. TO PROPERLY IDENT. VEH.</u>	<u>EST. NO. W/CONDITION</u>
Chevrolet	P	2011	121,844	05/10/2010 06/20/2011	Cruze	*
Chevrolet	P	2012	171,035	04/06/2011 08/07/2012	Cruze	"
GM Total:			292,879			

\* All involved vehicles will be corrected as necessary.

573.6(c)(2)(iv): This is a GM vehicle integration issue.

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