

GLOBAL SAFETY FIELD INVESTIGATIONS  
DCS4034  
URGENT - DISTRIBUTE IMMEDIATELY

Date: May 11, 2016

Subject: Upcoming Safety Recalls 15438 and 15817  
Front Passenger Airbag Inflator  
Recall Implementation Update

Models: 2007-2008 Chevrolet Silverado 2500/3500 Heavy Duty  
2007-2008 GMC Sierra 2500/3500 Heavy Duty

To: All Chevrolet and GMC Dealers

Attention: General Manager, Service Advisor, Service Manager, Parts and  
Service Director, Parts Manager, Used Vehicle Sales Manager

The purpose of this message is to provide dealers with additional information about upcoming safety recalls 15438 and 15817. As you are aware, a defect determination was reported by Takata Holdings Inc. ("Takata") to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) regarding Takata SPI airbag inflators. These inflators were installed in certain 2007-2008 model year Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra 2500/3500 heavy duty pickup trucks as original equipment.

Takata's report to NHTSA states in part: "The propellant wafers in some of the subject inflators may experience an alteration over time, which could potentially lead to overaggressive combustion in the event of an air bag deployment. Depending on the circumstances, this potential condition could create excessive internal pressure when the air bag is deployed, which could result in the body of the inflator rupturing upon deployment. . . . In the event of an inflator rupture, metal fragments could pass through the air bag cushion material, which may result in injury or death to vehicle occupants."

Analysis has revealed that involved vehicles that were originally sold, ever registered, or are currently registered in areas of high-absolute humidity are more susceptible to experiencing the failure mode described above. High-absolute humidity areas include the Gulf Coast states, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, Saipan and American Samoa. Therefore, in coordination with NHTSA and in accordance with the NHTSA Coordinated Remedy Order dated November 3, 2015, the involved vehicle population has been separated into vehicles that were originally sold, ever registered, or are currently registered in areas of high-absolute humidity and vehicles that were not originally sold, ever registered, or are not currently registered in areas of high-absolute humidity. The applicable recall numbers are 15438 (HAH) and 15817 (non-HAH), respectively.

As replacement airbag inflators start becoming available, they will be used to repair involved vehicles located in the HAH areas first. Later, when a sufficient supply of replacement airbag inflators is available, the repair of involved vehicles located in non-HAH areas will be initiated.

Several other vehicle manufactures are affected by the Takata defect determination; accordingly, replacement parts are extremely limited, and it may be some time before replacement parts are available for all affected vehicles. Please be assured that GM is working closely with NHTSA and the airbag inflator supplier to obtain these parts as quickly as possible.

END OF MESSAGE  
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