



RECEIVED

2006 OCT 31 A 10:30

OFFICE OF DEFECTS
INVESTIGATION

October 27, 2006

Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W., Room 5321, MC: NVS-200
Washington, D.C. 20590

06V-417
(3 pages)

Dear Mr. Smith:

The following information is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 as it applies to a determination by General Motors of a safety defect involving certain GM vehicles. The affected vehicles were originally built with cloth seats. After the original lease/rental agreement on the vehicles had expired and the vehicles were returned to General Motors, the vehicle seats were reupholstered with aftermarket leather seat cover kits and the vehicles were then sold.

573.6(c)(1): Chevrolet, GMC, Hummer, Pontiac and Buick Brands of General Motors Corporation

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

573.6(c)(5): General Motors has decided that a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain vehicles originally built with cloth seats that were equipped with an automatic airbag Passenger Sensing System and later reupholstered with aftermarket leather seat cover kits. Recently, testing on these vehicles indicated that the aftermarket front passenger leather seat cover kits can cause the airbag Passenger Sensing System to malfunction. If the Passenger Sensing System malfunctions, the front airbag on the passenger side may be disabled when it should be enabled, or enabled when it should be disabled.

The airbag status indicator displays the On/Off status of the front passenger airbag. Whenever the front passenger seat is occupied, the driver should always check the airbag indicator to see if the airbag is on or off as explained in the owner manual. If it is not correct for the situation, the passenger should be moved to a different seat.

573.6(c)(6): On March 9, 2006, Product Engineering learned about the installation of the aftermarket leather seat cover kits on vehicles with the Passenger Sensing System that were returned to GM after lease or rental service during a meeting with the GM Remarketing team about the possible use of unrelated aftermarket seat products. The installation of the aftermarket leather seat cover kits on GM vehicles with the Passenger Sensing System was immediately halted. Product Development investigated the issue from April, 2006 through August, 2006 which included obtaining a sample of affected vehicles for testing.

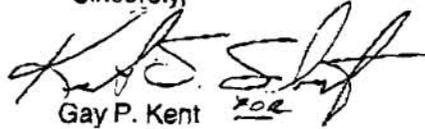
The issue was presented to the Field Performance Evaluation Review Committee (FPERC) and on October 20, 2006, the Executive Field Action Decision Committee (EFADC) decided to conduct a safety recall.

573.6(c)(8): Because a replacement leather seat cover that is compatible with the Passenger Sensing System is not available, General Motors will repurchase the vehicles.

Pursuant to 577.11(e), GM does not plan to provide notice about reimbursement to owners because there were no repairs and all vehicles are to be repurchased.

573.6(c)(9): General Motors will send copies of the dealer bulletin and owner letter when available. The dealer bulletin is scheduled for release on October 30, 2006 and the owner letter mail dates are November 6, 2006 and November 13, 2006.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gay P. Kent". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Gay P. Kent
Director
Product Investigations

06102
Attachments

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>
Buick	W-Car	2005	1	02/2005	02/2005	Lacrosse	All
Buick	W-Car	2006	1	08/2005	08/2005	Lacrosse	"
Buick	A-Truck	2005	242	06/2004	05/2005	Rendezvous	"
Buick	A-Truck	2006	19	06/2005	08/2005	Rendezvous	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2004	2	09/2003	01/2004	Silverado	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2005	5	06/2005	06/2005	Tahoe	"
Chevrolet	A-Truck	2006	1	07/2005	07/2005	HHR	"
Chevrolet	Z-Car	2006	1	08/2005	08/2005	Malibu	"
Chevrolet	S/T	2005	415	08/2004	06/2005	TrailBlazer	"
Chevrolet	S/T	2006	52	07/2005	11/2005	TrailBlazer	"
Pontiac	A-Truck	2005	1	12/2004	12/2004	Montana	"
Pontiac	Z-Car	2006	4	04/2005	08/2005	G6	"
GMC	S/T	2005	37	08/2004	06/2005	Envoy	"
GMC	S/T	2006	9	07/2005	08/2005	Envoy	"
GMC	C/K	2005	1	05/2005	05/2005	Sierra	"
Hummer	N-Truck	2006	3	08/2005	09/2005	H3	"
	GM Total:		794				