



U.S. Department
of Transportation
National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire
To Report Vehicle Safety Defects
1-888-DASH-2-DOT
(1-888-327-4236)
INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 120

Date Received

Repository ☐

13-MAY-2003
2003 JUN 26 PM 1:32

Reference No.
320019780

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name

Address

City

WEST SENECA

State NY

Zip Code

Daytime Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Evening Telephone Number

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? ☒ YES ☐ NO
In the absence of an authorized address to the vehicle manufacturer.
Signature of Owner _____ Date 6/10/03

VEHICLE INFORMATION

Make

BUICK

Model

LESABRE

Model Year

1997

Date Purchased

5/25/97

Dealer's Name and Telephone Number

DEHA CAR COMPANY - (716) 652-2600

Engine:

No: Cylinders

Fuel Type:

GAS

Original Owner

Dealer's City

EAST AURORA

State

N.Y.

Zip Code

14052

Transmission Type

AUTO

☒ Antilock Brakes

Powertrain

☒ Cruise Control

Vehicle Component Code

061000 ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING:ENGINE

Multiple Failure:

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s)
13-MAY-2003

Failure Mileage
31460

Failure Speed
—

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE

Tire Make

Tire Model (Name or Number)

Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)

DOT No. (Example: DOTM15ABC036)

☐ Original Equipment
☐ Prior Repair

Failure Location:

Tire Component Code

Tire Failure Type

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make:

Date Manufactured:

Model No./Name:

Seat Type:

Installation System:

Child Seat Component Code:

Failed Part:

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(ies).)

Crash

☐ Yes ☒ No

Fire

☐ Yes ☒ No

Number of Persons Injured

Number of Deaths

Reported to Police

N

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).

Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure;
i.e., parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

THE VEHICLE LEAKED OIL IN THE CONSUMERS GARAGE. THE VEHICLE WAS TAKEN TO A MECHANIC WHO STATED THAT THE SHIELD WAS MADE OF PLASTIC. HE ALSO STATED THAT HE READ THAT THESE THINGS WERE MADE OF PLASTIC AND COULD CATCH FIRE IF THE VEHICLE BECAME HOT. *NLM

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-579) This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies)

Mechanic checked engine and located fractured plastic intake manifold. Oil build-up on recesses of engine block recesses. Oil smoking causing fire hazard - Replaced plastic manifold on 5-7-03. Part retained for any possible testing by your Agency.

Enclosed: 1. Copy of Repair Bill

2. Buffalo Newspaper article regard fire Hazard regarding 97 Buick, article from National Highway TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION - WASHINGTON

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use \$300

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO 73173 WASHINGTON, D.C.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY NATL. HWY. TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMIN.

U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
DOT Auto Safety Hotline, NSA-10.1
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

**VEHICLE
OWNER'S
QUESTIONNAIRE**

DOT AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE

TO REPORT VEHICLE SAFETY DEFECTS
COMPLETE THIS FORM
ON

DASH2DOT

and dial toll free at

1-888-DASH-2-DOT

1-888-327-4236

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
(DASH) 2 DOT



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U.S. probes 3.8-liter engines

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government has upgraded an investigation into more than 2 million General Motors Corp. cars with 3.8-liter engines after 44 owners complained that the engines caught fire.

The investigation involves 1996 through 2000 models of the Buick Le Sabre, Park Avenue, Regal and Riviera; Oldsmobile 88, 98 and Cutlass; Pontiac Bonneville and Grand Prix; and the Chevrolet Monte Carlo.

Investigators from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration say the engine can backfire during start-up and fracture the plastic intake manifold, which can cause a fire.

GM recalled 275,811 cars with the same engine after similar complaints surfaced in 1996.

Dec. 5 - 2002

Article from Financial Section of the:
"Buffalo News"
on December 5th, 2002.

**THE ATTACHMENTS TO THIS
DOCUMENT HAVE BEEN REMOVED
TO PROTECT UNWARRANTED
INVASION OF PERSONAL PRIVACY
PURSUANT TO EXEMPTION 6 OF
THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).**