



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 100148

Date Received *2005 FEB -7 AM 11:13* Repository

13-JAN-2006 Reference No. 10147699

**OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)**

Name **TOM MALINZAK**  
Address **350 KEATING DRIVE**  
City **WINSTON-SALEM** State **NC** Zip Code **[REDACTED]**

Daytime Telephone Number [REDACTED] E-mail Address [REDACTED]  
Evening Telephone Number [REDACTED]

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle?  YES  NO  
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA will use your name and address to the vehicle manufacturer.  
Signature of Owner [REDACTED] Date *01/26/2006*

**VEHICLE INFORMATION**

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number (located at bottom of windshield on driver's side) **1GDT1 [REDACTED]** Make **GMC** Model **SONOMA** Model Year **2000**

Date Purchased **30-NOV-01** Dealer's Name and Telephone Number [REDACTED] Engine: No. Cylinders **6** Fuel Type: **Gas**

Original Owner  Dealer's City [REDACTED] State [REDACTED] Zip Code [REDACTED]

Transmission Type: **AUTOMATIC**  Antilock Brakes  Cruise Control Powertrain: **4 WHEEL DRIVE** Vehicle Component Code: **072100 FUEL SYSTEM, GASOLINE; DELIVERY; FUEL PUMP**  
Multiple Failure: **1**

**FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION**

Incident Date(s) **13 JAN 2006 Sep 2002** Failure Mileage **293000 75000** Failure Speed [REDACTED] *Gas Gauge Failed - cost \$830 to repair. I inquired at the dealership in 2002 and they said "No way"*

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE**

Tire Make [REDACTED] Tire Model (Name or Number) [REDACTED] Tire Size (Example P215/65R15) [REDACTED]  
DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC035)  Original Equipment  Prior Repair Failure Location: [REDACTED]  
Tire Component Code [REDACTED] Tire Failure Type [REDACTED]

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE**

Make: [REDACTED] Date Manufactured: [REDACTED] Model No./Name: [REDACTED]  
Seat Type: [REDACTED] Installation System: [REDACTED]  
Child Seat Component Code: [REDACTED] Failed Part: [REDACTED]

**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: [REDACTED] Number of Deaths: [REDACTED] 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).

DI\*: THE CONSUMER STATED THE FUEL GAUGE SUDDENLY STOPPED WORKING IN 2002. THE DEALERSHIP DETERMINED THE FUEL GAUGE AND FUEL PUMP NEED TO BE REPLACED. THE MANUFACTURER RECOMMENDED THE REPLACEMENT OF THESE COMPONENTS, BASED ON OTHER VEHICLES WITH THE SAME PROBLEM; THE WIRES COULD OVERHEAT AND CAUSE A FIRE IN THE GAS TANK. \*JB

*Help me!!*

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)**

The representative of GM told me this stem failed because the wires on the gauge, located in the fuel tank have overheated and failed (Gauge stopped working). she STRONGLY encouraged me to have it repaired. The dealership denies fixing it at their expense because of the current mileage. However, the problem was first reported to the Bob Wall/GM/Platinum Dealership in 2002 (when car had 30000 miles on it)

I feel like I have a dangerous product. I'm afraid to drive it because of the electric wires. ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

AND I NEED YOUR HELP!!

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

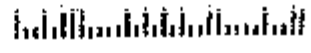


NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES

**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  
Office of Defects Investigation, NVS-210  
400 7th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590



Think your vehicle has a safety defect?



If so:

Use the enclosed form to file a report.

or visit:

[www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov)

or call:

Vehicle Safety Hotline  
**888-327-4236**



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