

Jimenez, Alberto

From: Test, Crash <Public Account>
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2006 4:32 PM
To: Jimenez, Alberto
Subject: Two technical questions about testing and fixing seat belts.

10/50817

Hello Alberto,

Could you please help answer this consumer's email question at your earliest convenience?

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your continued interest in our program.

NCAP
www.safercar.gov
1-888-DASH-2-DOT

Please feel free to forward this email to the appropriate person/division at NHTSA.

I own a 1987 Chevrolet Nova, a four-door sedan with front bucket seats. The rear seat belts are lap belts only. Each front seat belt is both a lap belt and a shoulder restraint, and is fed out from the side post. None of the belts are frayed, and all belts are well anchored. I have never been in an accident with the Nova since I bought it in 1990.

When I quickly and abruptly yank the driver's seat belt it does not catch and stop as I would expect it to do in an accident. I observed the same behavior with my mother's 1986 Plymouth. However, with my brother's newer pickup, quickly yanking the front passenger seatbelt causes it to catch and stop.

1. Is it necessary for me to have the seatbelts on my Nova tested and adjusted, assuming that this is possible?
2. Are local Chevrolet dealers (service department) equipped to test and adjust/fix seat belts?

Thank you.
Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Pierz, MN
[REDACTED]

*Overman
2/9/06*