



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

Repository

06 14-MAR-2008 8:55
206 AF

Reference No.
10152717

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
City VAN BUREN State ME 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 authorized signature, you must provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.
Signature of Owner [REDACTED] Date 04/11/08

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side
1GTDT1BX8 [REDACTED] Make GMC Model SONOMA Model Year 1999
Date Purchased 21-APR-99 Dealer's Name and Telephone Number GAGNON'S GMC Engine: No. Cylinders 8 Fuel Type: Gas
Original Owner Dealer's City CARIBOU State ME Zip Code 04738
Transmission Type AUTOMATIC Antilock Brakes Cruise Control Powertrain 4 WHEEL DRIVE Vehicle Component Code 162510 STRUCTURE:BODY:TAILGATE:HINGE AND ATTACHMENTS
Multiple Failure: 1

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s) 15-FEB-2008 Failure Mileage 59000 Failure Speed [REDACTED]

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: DOTM16ABCD36) 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).

DT*: THE CONTACT STATED WHEN THE TAILGATE WAS OPENED THE HINGES BROKE. THE TAILGATE CAME TO REST ON THE BUMPER OF THE VEHICLE. THE VEHICLE HAS NOT BEEN INSPECTED. THERE IS A NHTSA RECALL, # 08V069000, REGARDING THE TAILGATE: HINGE AND ATTACHMENTS. THE VEHICLE HAS THE SAME PROBLEM AS INDICATED IN THE RECALL; HOWEVER IT IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE RECALL DUE TO THE MODEL AND VIN. THE MANUFACTURER HAS BEEN ALERTED.

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.

April 12, 2006

Attn; The General Motors Corporation;

Please note that I am referring to the enclosed article that was published on March 15th.
By the associated press;

Can you tell me why the General Motors Corp. are only recalling the 1999-2000 models Chevrolet Silverado and the GMC Sierra trucks to fix a tailgate problem that involves the cables that can corrode and break when loads are placed on them. What about other models of GMC trucks that have the same problem like the 1999-2000 Sonoma's?

This exact same problem has happened to our truck and yes, someone could have gotten hurt. But for some reason the GM Company does not include the Sonoma in their recall. I can't help but wonder why they would do this. Maybe it's because you were not made aware of this problem with the Sonoma's.

So that's why I'm writing to tell you that yes the Sonoma's also do have the same tailgate problem as the larger model trucks. I would greatly appreciate it if the General Motors Corp. would take the time to look into this.

Needless to say that I am very dissatisfied at this point with GM for excluding the Sonoma's and letting there owners pay for this problem out of there pockets while the owners of the other larger models do not have to. How can you justify this?

I can assure you that this will be the last GM product that we will be purchasing if you Do not include the Sonoma's on the recall list. Please find enclosed one of the two cables that have broken off the tailgate of our truck for you to inspect.

I look forward to hearing from you soon and hopefully you will see that I have a valid reason for being upset.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Van Buren, ME. [REDACTED]

Ph.# [REDACTED]

GM recalling about 900,000 pickup trucks

BY KEN THOMAS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — General Motors Corp. said Friday it is recalling about 900,000 pickup trucks worldwide to fix tailgate cables that can corrode and break when loads are placed on them.

The recall involves 1999-2000 models of the Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra trucks. GM said there have been 84 injuries, most of them minor scrapes and bumps, but no crashes or deaths linked to the problem.

GM, the world's No. 1 automaker, said the galvanized, braided-steel support cables that keep the tailgates in place can corrode or fracture over time because of moisture seeping through cracks in the plastic sheathing of the cable or entering between the cable's metal strands.

The automaker had recalled about 4 million 2000-2004 pickups worldwide in March 2004 because the tailgates could break without warning. The recall involved a broader range of vehicles, including the Chevrolet Silverado, GMC Sierra, Chevrolet Avalanche

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and Cadillac Escalade EXT trucks.

GM spokesman Alan Adler said the vehicles covered by the new recall had different materials used in the support cables and involved fewer complaints. He said the automaker decided to issue the recall after "an exhaustive investigation."

"We worked with [the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration] and agreed to do the recall to get this behind us," Adler said.

NHTSA had been investigating the vehicles. More than 800,000 of the trucks are located in the United States, and about 90,000 vehicles are in Mexico

and Canada. About 3,800 of the recalled trucks were exported to countries around the globe.

Owners are expected to receive recall notices in April, but they can bring their trucks into a dealership for inspection if they suspect problems with the cables, Adler said. Under the recall, dealers will replace the galvanized support cables with ones made with stainless steel.

Most of the injuries stemmed from people sitting on the tailgate or occurred while people were unloading items from the truck bed. The company has advised owners not to sit on the tailgate.

GM said if both cables fractured, the tailgate would drop and strike the top of the rear bumper, which could cause someone standing or sitting on the tailgate to fall.