



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: 21-APR-2006  
Repository:   
Reference No.: 10155807

**OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)**

Name: [REDACTED]  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: HOLLAND State: NY Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Daytime Telephone Number: [REDACTED]  
Evening Telephone Number: [REDACTED]  
E-mail Address: [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 NOT provide your name or address to the vehicle manufacturer.  
Signature of Owner: [REDACTED] Date: 4/28/06

**VEHICLE INFORMATION**

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side: 1GTCS1446WK [REDACTED]  
Make: GMC Model: SONOMA Model Year: 1998  
Date Purchased: 01-JUN-98 Dealer's Name and Telephone Number: 716-667-2000 SIM BALL GMC-POIN-BOICK  
Engine: No: Cylinders 4 Fuel Type: Gas  
Original Owner:  Dealer's City: ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. State: NY Zip Code: 14127  
Transmission Type: MANUAL Antilock Brakes:  Cruise Control:  Powertrain: REAR WHEEL DRIVE  
Vehicle Component Code: 162510 STRUCTURE: BODY: TAILGATE: HINGE AND ATTACHMENTS  
Multiple Failure: 1

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

Incident Date(s): 21-APR-2006 Failure Mileage: 50,000 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: DOTM19ABC036): [REDACTED]  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 THE CABLE THAT HOLDS THE TAILGATE RUSTED AND THE TAILGATE FRACTURED. THERE IS AN NHTSA RECALL, # 06V066000, REGARDING THE STRUCTURE: BODY: TAILGATE: HINGE AND ATTACHMENTS. THE VEHICLE HAS THE SAME PROBLEMS AS INDICATED IN THE RECALL; HOWEVER IT IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE RECALL DUE TO THE VIN.

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)

NO INJURIES, BUT THE CABLE THAT HOLDS THE TAILGATE UP RUSTED THROUGH SEVERAL YEARS AGO AND I USE A CHAIN TO SUPPORT THE TAILGATE. THE MILEAGE ON THE VEHICLE WAS APPROX. 50,000 AT THE TIME OF FAILURE.

I SAW THE ENCLOSED NEWS ARTICLE AND WONDERED WHY MY VEHICLE IS NOT BEING RECALLED. I HAVE THE SAME IDENTICAL PROBLEM.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

1-800-424-9393

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2006

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

400 Seventh St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20415

Official Business Penalty for Private Use

BUSINESS TODAY COVER

MOTOR VEHICLES

About 900,000 pickup trucks are being recalled by GM

BY KEN THOMAS 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 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.

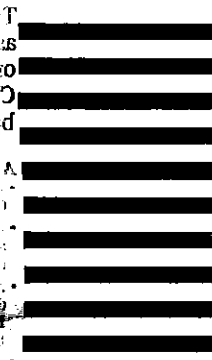
In a separate action, GM plans to issue a "special policy" letter in June regarding the cables to more than 950,000 owners of Chevrolet S-10 and GMC Sonoma pickups from the 2000-2003 model years. The action is not a recall, but provides owners with an inspection procedure to check the tailgate for any problems.

If owners notice any bulges in the cable or tears in the plastic covering, they can bring their S-10 or Sonoma to a dealer for inspection and replacement of the cables.

About 2.7 million trucks from the 2004 recall have been repaired and the automaker is trying to track down owners who have not participated, Adler said.

GM shares rose 30 cents, or 1.4 percent, to close at \$21.64 on the New York Stock Exchange.

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES



Vertical text on the left margin: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration