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

2006 DEC -5 AM 8:40

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100148

Date Received	Repository ☐
24-OCT-2006	Reference No. 10171739

OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)

Name [redacted]	Daytime Telephone Number [redacted]	E-mail Address [redacted]
Address [redacted]	Evening Telephone Number [redacted]	
City UNCASVILLE	State CT	Zip Code [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 _____ Date ___/___/___

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side	Make	Model	Model Year
1G2MB35[redacted]	PONTIAC	SOLSTICE	2006

Date Purchased	Dealer's Name and Telephone Number			Engine:	Fuel Type:
17-MAY-06	Brustolon Buick Pontiac GMC INC			No: Cylinders 4	Gas
Original Owner ☒	Dealer's City MYSTIC	State Ct	Zip Code 06355		

Transmission Type		Powertrain	Vehicle Component Code
MANUAL	☒ Antilock Brakes ☒ Cruise Control	REAR WHEEL DRIVE	014000 STEERING:RACK AND PINION Multiple Failure: 1

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Incident Date(s)	Failure Mileage	Failure Speed	
01-OCT-2006	7000	0	Differential Pinion Seal

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: DOTMAL9ABC036)	☐ 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 the Narrative(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).)

Crash	Fire	Number of Persons Injured	Number of Deaths	Reported to Police
☐ Yes ☒ No	☐ Yes ☒ No	0	0	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 REAR PINION SEAL FAILED AND LEAKED OIL ONTO THE EXHAUST PIPE AND CAUSED SMOKE THAT COULD LEAD TO A FIRE. THE SERVICE DEALER AND MANUFACTURER WERE NOTIFIED AND OFFERED TO REPLACE THE SEAL.
Pinion Seal and differential failures are widespread on the 06 Sdstice because of a design flaw which has been solved with the addition of a torque bar (Internet Solstice Forum) for the (07) model year. This leaves approx 20,000 (06) Solstices on the road with differential leaks + failures because GM refuses to make the changes to the (06) Solstice.

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 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)

I internet Solstice forum have reported clunking, whining, and leaking condtions and total failures of the Solstice differential for the (06) year. GM refuses to address the root cause, which is flexing of the drivetrain, by installing a torque bar linking the transmission to the differential, as they have done with the '07 (07) model year of this car. I believe a forced recall is necessary in this case as GM obviously is not doing a permanante fix to these cars and that any drivetrain problem is a safety related issue that should be addressed in a way that the problems don't reoccur

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

DOT
NATIONAL HIGHWAY
TRAFFIC SAFETY ADM
400 7TH ST SW
WASHINGTON DC 20590

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO 1888 WASHINGTON DC

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION, NVS-210
400 7TH ST SW
WASHINGTON DC 20077-8214

Think your vehicle has a safety defect?

If so:

Use the enclosed form to file a report.

or visit:

www.safercar.gov

or call:

Vehicle Safety Hotline

888-327-4236

www.nhtsa.gov

NHTSA

November 3, 2006

Pontiac Customer Assistance Center
P.O. Box 33172
Detroit, MI 48232-5172
(address)

Dear Sir:

I ordered a Pontiac Solstice from Brustolon Pontiac in Mystic, Connecticut in November, 2005 and the vehicle was delivered in May, 2006.

The appearance and handling of this sport car was everything that I would expect from a Pontiac. My dad has extolled the virtues of Pontiacs since he bought his 1942 from his grandfather in 1955.

However, my satisfaction was short-lived because the beauty was only skin-deep. The car developed an oil leak from the vent in the differential, then an oil leak in the differential pinion oil seal and, most distressing, increased clunking noises from the transmission/differential when shifting or accelerating/decelerating.

I have had the vehicle back to the dealer many times and once to another dealer and the party line seems to be that this is "normal'. I have been driving cars for 30 years and my dad for 60 years and we have never experienced anything like this. The kind of noise made by this vehicle clearly indicates a problem and being told that these noises are "normal" is an insult to my intelligence.

That the design of the 2006 is flawed is evident from the major modifications made to the 2007 that included the addition of a torque bar connecting the transmission to the differential. That this problem is not unique to my vehicle is also evident from internet forum discussions.

I respectfully request that you evaluate this situation and suggest a remedy that will restore my confidence in the Pontiac Motor Company.

Very truly yours,

Reference: VIN 1G2MB35B[redacted]

[redacted]

cc: Brustolon Pontiac

Uncasville, CT[redacted]

Total number of Forum members is approx 1500
Total number of Solstice (06) owners is approx 20,000

http://www.solsticeforum.com/forum/s...ad.php?t=12189

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Gizmo**
Here is a list of Forum members with differential leaks and their resolution:

2005 differential leaks, alphabetical by username:
Post.Detect.LSD.Clnk.VIN....UserName.....Action taken

.....12/.....Y....?..101113.2091351.....replaced PS #1 of 2
.....Y....Y..000909.Backstage..... repl PS
.....Y....Y..103012.blue_q..... ..repl PS, clunk gone
.....Y....N...105224.FINSnFLORA.....r epl PS
.....Y....Y...103745.flaj..... .....repl PS
.....Y...Occ.103520.jrdallas..... ...repl PS
.....Y....Y...101928.JT72..... ...repaired
.....Y....N...000948 Mactown.....new carrier
.....Y...Occ.000369.Rowan1008.....r epl rear end
.....Y...Y....106281.scubaman..... .new carrier
.....000031.sol4soul..... .....
.....Y...Occ.103658.SOL-Brotha.....
.....12/30..Y....N...106241.Sol_Man.....repl PS
.....N....N...101491.Tigerman..... ...repl relief valve; then repl PS

2006 diffential leaks in order of date discovered:
Post.Detect.LSD.Clnk..VIN....UserName.....A ction taken

.....01/05...Y....N...103725.SPIROB.....waiting for PS
.....01/12.....reetucker.....1st leak; repl PS #1
.....01/14.....jjwags.....re pl PS
.....01/17.....N.....flytyer.....pa rt ordered
.....01/19.....105456.2late.....1st leak; repl PS 01/30/06
.....01/19.....106017.ojohnson.....repl PS
.....01/19...Y....Y..104186.charlieh.....repl PS; less clunk
.....01/19...N....Y..106350.Boca Sly.....seal & flange ordered
.....01/20...Y....Y..101068.brentil.....repl PS
.....01/21...Y....N..000765.stunty3.....part ordered
.....01/22...Y....Y..105940.fortimir.....repl PS
.....01/28...Y.....103102.smartin.....repl PS; shifting is smoother
.....01/30...Y....Y..106262.IWantOne.....part

ordered
.....01/31.....000197.Dogtown.....leak
.....01/31. .Y....Y..005941.Batman.....repl PS

.....02/05.....000917.Swinging Steak.....leak
.....02/06...N....N.....ricks.....re pl PS
.....02/07...Y....N..106165.rochelle.....part ordered
.....02/07...N....N..103812.Wolfiepup.....repl PS
.....02/08...N.....101071.Andrew Jackson....repl PS
.....02/08...Y....N..106796.scott rauch.....incorrect torque on seal bolts; repl PS
.....02/10...Y.....103823.Firebird99.....leak
05.....02/13...Y....Y..105330.fivespokes.....repl PS

24.....02/14...Y.rare.106904.drh1965.....repl PS; gear whine worse
.....02/21...Y....N..103623.shaw31.....repl PS
26.....02/21...Y....Y..107281.ctigerman.....repl PS 03/16
14.....02/22...Y....Y..000937.Drex.....repl PS 03/07
12.....02/23...Y....Y..102274.denette.....repl PS
.....02/23.....000652.injunnuity.....leak; garaged till spring
23.....02/24...Y....Y..104342.thaidai.....repl PS 04/04
.....02/25...Y....Y..000376.ateam_77.....leak; garaged till spring
.....02/25...Y..slight.....Bonzo.....carri er cover gasket leak #89058617
16.....02/26...Y....N..101757.SolMomma.....repl PS
84.....02/28...Y....Y..102691.58MGA.....waiting on new rear diff.
.....03/01.....105124.UhDave.....leak
13.....03/03...Y....N..107121.goldopelgt.....repl PS 03/09
.....03/04.....000116.ERIC&JEN.....leak
06.....03/04...Y....Y..000795.OBXSOL.....repl PS
11.....03/04...Y....N..110437.Chance.....part ordered
.....03/05.....106044.timtjhunter.....leak
25.....03/06...Y....Y..000822.WannaSolstice.....repl PS 03/22; less clunk

.....03/06.....104566.DENNISC.....repl PS
.....03/06.....106264.f.mortimer.....repl PS
09.....03/07...Y....N..105531.daveritag.....?
07.....03/08...Y....Y..104654.BigWillie.....part ordered

22.....03/08...Y....Y..101744.SolsticeDesire.....repl PS 03/22
15.....03/09...Y....Y..108408.SayWhat.....repl PS 03/14
17.....03/10...Y....Y..106662.Thomas.....repl PS and flange
19.....03/12...Y....Y..109298.shiftngo.....leak
20.....03/12...Y....N..000637.brian carpenter.....repl PS
37.....03/23...Y....Y..102432.DestinDriver.....repl PS
38.....03/24...N....N..106251.wgwms.....repl PS
53.....03/24...Y....Y..109234.sol4362.....repl PS 03/27; clunk gone
.....03/26...N....Y..000607.solkool.....leak
30.....03/27...Y....Y..111679.Solong.....repl PS
31.....03/27...Y....Y..104098.solli4me.....repl PS; now has whine
32.....03/27...Y....Y..105448.VINNY #000001....at dealer; waiting for part
36.....03/27...Y....Y..104321.Hot Mama.....repl PS
68.....03/28...Y....N..111665.SeanG.....repl PS 03/29
34.....03/29...Y....N..109495.HMc.....at dealer; waiting for part
35.....04/01...Y....Y..107106.PlanB.....repl PS
40/80.04/07...Y....Y..106767.Sophie's Owner.....repl PS 05/09
43.....04/07...Y....Y..108646.Archerly.....repl PS 04/14
41.....04/09...Y....Y..101292.crawdadsolstice....repl PS 04/11
50.....04/10...Y....Y..102378.greystoke.....repl PS
76.....04/10...Y....N..110070.mystein.....leak
42.....04/12...Y....N..109144.Hillbilly.....repl PS 05/05
46.....04/14...?....Y..109337.pilo.....repl PS 04/17
47.....04/14...Y....N..107979.youngatheart.....leak
48.....04/14...Y....N..106614.MomsSol.....04/20 repl PS, cover seal, 2 axle seals
49.....04/14...Y....Y..112097.summerSol.....at dealer; waiting for part
51.....04/15...Y....N..106084.SweetSly.....repl PS 04/21
54.....04/15...Y....Y..101916.ghia.....repl PS 04/21
55.....04/15...Y....Y..105913.AztekzRpurty.....repl rear

end 05/19; less clunk
57.....04/19...Y....Y..107983.one2blue.....repl PS 04/21
58.....04/19.....Christiques.....at dealer

61.....04/21...N....Y..112811.jkicak.....repl PS
64.....04/22...Y....N..102801.Loosearrow.....repl PS 04/27
62.....04/25...Y....Y..106857.IgotSol.....repl PS

63.....04/27...Y....Y..109964.Adolph.....leak
65.....04/29...Y....N..111602.retriever.....repl PS 05/03
66.....04/29...Y....N..106633.edmaroon.....repl PS 05/04

73.....05/03...Y....Y..102237.CADREAMIN.....05/05 repl PS and vent seal
72.....05/04...N....Y..109327.ca1872.....repl PS 05/04; some whine, some rattle

74.....05/06...Y....N..114226.karilynhart.....repl PS 05/09; repl rear end 05/25
78.....05/09...Y....N..102020.VIN2020.....at dealer; part ordered
79.....05/09...Y....N..112328.Got Sol.....repl PS 05/17
.....05/10.....jackaroo2.....PS blown; made a loud pop
81.....05/11...Y....N..110641.plc0.....repl PS 05/18
82.....05/12...Y....?..110911.stuck.....repl PS 05/15
83.....05/14...Y....Y..103647.Berserk303.....repl PS 05/17
85.....05/18...Y....N..113405.bbradshaw.....leak
89.....05/20...Y....N..115140.DetroitDriver.....repl PS
91.....05/20.. Y....N..104253.Pure Law.....at dealer; waiting for part
90.....05/24...Y....Y..108337.MN Mike.....PS repl 05/24; spline resealed

.....104315.DeepSol..... .....repl gasket & yoke
08.....03/06...Y....Y..105651.SlyFly.....just relief valve AGAIN!
39.....04/08...Y....Y..000741.SolWhat?.....just relief valve
44.....04/10...Y....N..113012.nailja.....relie f

valve
45.....04/12...Y....N..112200.ronrau.....rear shock leak
del....05/02...Y....Y..105349.blackdog.....at dealer; waiting for part
7/.....05/03...N....Y..106154.slyfox.....fluid was overfilled
71.....05/05. .Y....N..113012.nallja.....waiti ng on new vent valve
45.....05/06.....sol sandy.....fixed leak

Pinion seal part number is 88996592
Entire rear differential part number is 15825074

Last edited by Gizmo : 06-10-2006 at . Reason: final update; list no longer to be updated

2

Gizmo
Senior Member

Join Date: Mar 2005
Location: , HoustonTX

Please Use This Post As Format For Reporting Leak

Date leak first detected:

Does your Solstice have LSD:

Does your Solstice have Clunk:

Model year of Solstice:

VIN last 6 digits:

Build date, if known:

Cumulative miles when leak detected:

Indicate current status with "X" in front of one of these:

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).