



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

Auto Safety Hotline

Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire

NATIONWIDE 1-800-424-9393
DC METRO AREA (202) 366-0123
INTERNET: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 258

Date Received

05-NOV-2001

Ord. or

rt. dt

pd. rt

up. hr

Reference No.

754119

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? ☐ YES ☐ NO
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name and address to the vehicle manufacturer.

Signature of Owner _____ Date ____/____/____

VEHICLE INFORMATION

Vehicle Ident. No. (VIN) (Locate at bottom of windshield and door side) W06VR52R8WR183951	Vehicle Make CADILLAC	Vehicle Model CATERA	Vehicle Year 1998	Current Odometer Reading
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Purchase Date 01-FEB-2000	Dealer's Name _____	Engine Size (CID/CC/L) _____	☐ Turbo ☐ Diesel ☐ Gas ☐ Fuel Injection
☐ New ☒ Used	City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____	No Cylinders _____	
Transmission Type ☐ Manual ☐ Automatic	Antilock Brakes ☒ Yes ☐ No	Restraint System ☒ 3-Point Belt ☐ Motorbelt ☐ Driverside Airbag ☐ 2-Point Bel ☐ Passengerside Airbag	Cruise Control ☒ Yes ☐ No
		Drive Train ☐ Front ☒ Rear ☐ 4-Wheel	Vehicle Type ☐ Car ☐ Sport Util ☐ Van ☐ Truck ☐ Minivan ☐ Motorcycle ☐ Other _____
			Body Style ☐ 2-Door ☒ 4-Door ☐ Stationwagon ☐ Pick Up Truck ☐ Other _____

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Component 05151000	Part Name(s) ENGINE:TIMING GEAR AND CHAIN	Location ☐ Left ☐ Right ☐ Front ☐ Rear	Failed Part(s) ☐ Original ☐ Replacement
No of Failure 1	Date(s) of Failure(s) 03-NOV-2001	Failed Part(s) ☐ Yes ☐ No	NHTSA Previously ☐ Yes ☐ No
	Mileage at Failure(s) 51,000		
	Vehicle Speed at Failure(s) 10		

APPLICATION INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and injury(ies) on the back of this form)

Crash ☐ Yes ☐ No	Fire ☐ Yes ☒ No	Number of Persons Injured 0	Number of Fatalities 0	Estimated Property Damag 0	Reported to Police ☐ Yes ☒ No
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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF FAILURE(S), INCIDENT(S), INJURY(IES)

TIMING BELT TENSIONER FAILED AT 51,000 MILES (WARRANTY ENDS AT 50,000 MILES) CAUSING MAJOR DAMAGE TO THE VALVES AND GEARS. REQUIRES NEW VALVES, TENSIONER, HEAD GASKET, BELT, ETC. SERVICE DEPARTMENT TOLD ME THAT THIS IS A PROBLEM SPECIFIC TO THE CATERA. HE SAID THAT TENSIONER SYSTEM IS UNIQUE TO CATERA. THIS PROBLEM APPEARS TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH A FAULTY SYSTEM. OTHER CADILLAC MODELS DO NOT HAVE THE SAME TIMING BELT SYSTEM. QUOTED REPAIR COST IS \$4,800. THIS IS NOT JUST A TIMING BELT PROBLEM, WHICH IS A NORMAL WEAR AND TEAR PROBLEM. MOST CAR OWNERS EXPECT TO REPAIR TIMING BELTS SOME TIME DURING THEIR OWNERSHIP, IF THEY KEEP THE VEHICLES LONG ENOUGH. HOWEVER, WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A \$40,000

CONTINUE ON REVERSE

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.