



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: RQ 04-010
Prompted By: GM Campaign 04V-129
Date Opened: 09/28/2004
Principal Investigator: Tom Bowman
Subject: Tailgate Support Cables

Manufacturer: General Motors Corp.
Products: 1998-1999 Silverado and Sierra
Population: 1435688

Problem Description: When the tailgate is in the open (horizontal) position, one or both of the tailgate support cables can break causing the supported individual and/or cargo to drop to the ground without warning.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	30	43	73
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	7	10	17
# Injuries:	8	11	19
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	11560	11560

*Description Of Other: Warranty claims for 1998 and 1999 model year vehicles.

Action: Open a Recall Query (RQ)

Engineer: Thomas Bowman

Date: 09/28/2004

Div. Chief: Richard Boyd

Date: 09/28/2004

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 09/28/2004

Summary: General Motors is conducting Recall Campaign 04V-129 to replace the tailgate support cables originally installed in certain model year 2000-2004 Sierras and Silverados and model year 2002-2004 Avalanches and Cadillac Escalade EXTs.

ODI has reviewed owner complaints and GM warranty information for 1998 and 1999 model year Sierras and Silverados and compared this data with comparable complaint and warranty information pertaining to 2000-2004 model year vehicles. The data indicates that tailgate cable breakage incidents and injuries have occurred in 1998-1999 model year Sierras and Silverados, but these incidents occur at a lower count and lower rate than 2000-2004 model year Sierras and Silverados.

ODI will conduct further investigation to determine whether further action is indicated for 1998-1999 model year Sierras and Silverados.

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Tom Bowman 9/28/04