



ODI RESUME

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

Investigation: EA 07-006
Prompted By: RQ06-009
Date Opened: 04/18/2007 Date Closed: 09/13/2007
Principal Investigator: Peter Ong
Subject: Fuel Tank Leakage

Manufacturer: General Motors Corp.
Products: 2001 - 2004 Pontiac Aztek/Buick Rendezvous Vehicles
Population: 279,780

Problem Description: Fuel odor and/or fuel leakage at the inlet pipe portion of the fuel tank.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	57	175	232
Crashes/Fires:	1	1	2
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	2470	2470

*Description of Other: Warranty claims for fuel tank replacement

Action: Close this investigation. Recall campaign 07V-349.

Engineer: Peter C. Ong *PCO*

Date: 09/13/2007

Div. Chief: Thomas Z. Cooper

Date: 09/13/2007

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 09/13/2007

Summary: GM is recalling (NHTSA recall no. 07V-349) certain model year (MY) 2002-2004 Buick Rendezvous, Chevrolet Venture (regular wheelbase) and 2001-2004 Pontiac Aztek and Montana (regular wheelbase) vehicles to replace fuel tanks and correct a defect that may allow fuel leakage. the vehicle recall population is Rendezvous and Aztek vehicles built in May 2003, Venture and Montana vehicle built in June through August 2002 and certain same model vehicles registered in Nevada, Arizona, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Hawaii that were built through Nov/Dec 2003 (depending on model). The total number of vehicles recalled is 20,594 (includes 15,196 subject Aztek and Rendezvous vehicles).

In addition to the recall, GM will extend the warranty on MY 2002-2004 Rendezvous and regular wheel base Venture vans and MY 2001-2004 Aztek and regular wheelbase Montana vans not included in the recall to provide warranty coverage for a period of 10 years or 150,000 miles, whichever occurs first.

GM will begin notifying owners in December 2007.

GM reports that the fuel inlet pipe containing the inlet check valve (ICV) may fracture and allow fuel vapors or fuel to leak out. GM data revealed that elevated ambient temperatures, higher carbon content in the ICV and variation in the manufacturing process were the contributing factors for potential cracks in the ICV. Beginning December 2003, GM built vehicles with a redesigned fuel tank/ICV. Subject vehicles not included in the recall or extended warranty did not show a failure trend similar to the above vehicles.

For additional details, see recall 07V-349. This investigation is closed.