

October 3, 2011

O. Kevin Vincent, Esq. Chief Counsel Office of Chief Counsel (NCC-111) NHTSA, West Building W41-227 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590 2007 Saturn Aura Shift Cable PE11-021 NHTSA Presentation

Dear Mr. Vincent:

Enclosed with this letter are three copies of General Motors' (GM) presentation materials from its September 28, 2011 meeting with Mr. Scott Yon and Mr. Larry Hershman from the NHTSA, regarding MY 2007 Saturn Aura transmission shift cables. GM is submitting this information on its own accord — it was not required to do so by any formal agency request or regulatory requirement. The information is being submitted voluntarily to Mr. Scott Yon, Chief, Vehicle Integrity Division, NHTSA Office of Defects Investigation. Two copies include the confidential information and the third does not.

The information for which GM is not requesting confidentiality is included in Att\_1\_GM.

GM requests the documents stamped "GM Confidential Business Information", be afforded confidential treatment without a time limitation by the NHTSA. These are included in the electronic disk identified as ATT\_2\_GM\_CONF. This information is a voluntary submission to the agency and is not customarily made public by GM, and contains trade secrets and commercial information which is privileged or confidential under 5 U.S.C. Section 552(b)(4), 49 CFR Part 512 and 49 U.S.C. Section 30167(a). GM submits that the competitive harm would be substantial because the design and manufacture of vehicles and vehicle components are the core of its business, and because global competition in that business is intense.

The following identifies the specific type of confidential information contained in the documents:

DOCUMENT NAME	INFORMATION TYPES
2007_Saturn_Aura_phone_conference_092811- c.pdf as indicated {*}	Presentation regarding GM's Mechanical Controls/Component and Material Testing and Evaluation/Analysis Methodology.



Letter to O. Kevin Vincent 2007 Saturn Aura Presentation October 3, 2011 Page 2 of 3

GM treats the above material as confidential proprietary information available only to authorized GM, supplier, and customer personnel who have a business need for them, and are not otherwise available to the public. These documents are maintained under a record-keeping system that is intended to control dissemination of this material within GM and supplier and customer personnel, and to assure that it is not freely disseminated outside the Corporation. Multiple security systems are used to limit access to facilities and record storage systems where confidential information is stored, and employees receive training in information security policies and procedures.

To the best of our knowledge, the NHTSA, other Federal Agencies, or the Federal Courts has made no prior determinations of the confidentiality for these documents. These types of documents, however, have normally been granted confidential treatment by the NHTSA in the past, to the best of our knowledge.

The document subject to this request for confidentiality is being provided and has been clearly stamped "GM Confidential Business Information" on the disk label. If a request for disclosure of any or all of this information is received by the NHTSA, GM requests notification of receipt of each such request and, if necessary, an opportunity to further explain the reasons why such material is trade secret and commercial information which should not be disclosed under the applicable statutes and regulations.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

M. Carmen Benavides, Director

Product Investigations and Safety Regulations

Enclosure

# CERTIFICATE IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

- I, M. Carmen Benavides, pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR Part 512, state as follows:
- (1) I am Director of Product Investigations and Safety Regulations of GM Company and am authorized to execute this certificate on its behalf:
- (2) I certify that the information contained in the documents identified in the letter dated October 3, 2011 is confidential and proprietary data and is being submitted with the claim that it is entitled to confidential treatment under 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4) and 49 C.F.R. Part 512.
- (3) I hereby request that the information be protected without a time limitation.
- (4) This certification is based on the information provided by the responsible GM personnel who have responsibility for the documents being provided to the NHTSA for which a claim of confidentiality has been made.
- (5) Based on that information, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, the information for which GM has claimed confidential treatment has never been released or made available outside GM and supplier or customer personnel.
- (6) I make no representations beyond those contained in this certificate and, in particular, I make no representations as to whether this information may become available outside GM because of unauthorized or inadvertent disclosure.
- (7) I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2011.

M. Carmen Benavides, Director

Product Investigations and Safety Regulations

# PE11-021

2007 Saturn Aura Shift Indicator

September 28, 2011

## Saturn Aura Shift Cable

#### 2 transmissions

- MN5 4 speed automatic transmission
- MH2 6 speed automatic transmission

### **Shift Cable Suppliers**

Leggett & Platt (MN5 & MH2)

• 2007 Start of Production - ~October 22, 2007

### Kongsberg (MN5 & MH2)

~ October 23, 2007 – End of 2009 Production















