

Memorandum

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Subject: Test Request: Evaluation of Date: June 13, 2013

Body Control Module (BCM)

From: Frank Borris, Director Reply to NVS-212eer

Office of Defects Investigation Attn of: EA13-005

To: Roger Saul, Director

Vehicle Research and Test Center

This memorandum requests the Vehicle Research and Test Center (VRTC) to conduct the testing and evaluation as described below.

BACKGROUND: The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) is conducting an Engineering Analysis (EA12-004) concerning the Body Control Module (BCM) in MY 2005-2008 Pontiac G6 vehicles. The BCM receives a Brake Apply Sensor (BAS) signal voltage and uses that signal to activate or deactivate the brake lights.

In October 2010, Technical Service Bulletin (TSB) 08-05-22-009C identified problems with intermittent brake light malfunctions most likely due to fretting corrosion in the BCM C2 and X2 connectors. Other conditions related to this concern include difficulty shifting the vehicle out of PARK and the cruise control failing to properly engage. To remedy the problem the TSB suggests that dielectric lubricant be applied to the BCM terminals.

It has been noted that the scope of vehicles involved in the investigation may extend to MY2009-2010 Pontiac G6, MY2004-2011 Chevrolet Malibu, and MY 2007-2009 Saturn Aura vehicles.

ALLEGED DEFECT: The brake lights will intermittently operate in reverse. The lights remain illuminated when the brake pedal is not depressed and turn off when the brake pedal is applied.

OBJECTIVES: The objectives of this test program are to evaluate and/or determine: 1) any potential root causes of the alleged defect, 2) possible failure mode(s) and mechanism(s), 3) the safety risk that each failure poses and, 4) how effectively the current field fix, as outlined in TSB 08-05-22-009C, resolves the alleged problem.

<u>TEST SAMPLE BCM</u>: ODI has requested one field sample and one exemplar BCM from General Motors in its Information Request (IR).

RECOMMENDED APPROACH: VRTC will prepare a test plan designed to meet the above test objective. A flexible approach may be taken, but the ODI principal investigator, Ms. Emily

Reichard, shall be kept informed of any significant developments that may require substantive changes to the original test plan. Emily can be reached at emily.reichard@dot.gov or (202) 366-4925.

REPORTS: A test report shall be provided upon completion of testing.

SCHEDULE: Timing to be determined with VRTC.