



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

*December 20, 2005*

GAY KENT  
DIRECTOR, PRODUCT INVESTIGATIONS  
GENERAL MOTORS CORP.  
MAIL CODE 480-111-E15  
30200 MOUND ROAD  
WARREN MI 48090-9055

NVS-215  
05V-558

Subject: SEAT BELT BUCKLES

Dear MS. KENT:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this is the information that will be made available to the public.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**  
CHEVROLET/EXPRESS/2003-2006  
GMC/SAVANA/2003-2006

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 05V-558

**Mfg's Report Date:** December 12, 2005

**Components:** SEAT BELTS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 425,593

**Summary:**

ON CERTAIN FULL-SIZE PASSENGER, CARGO, OR CUTAWAY VANS, THE FRONT AND REAR SEAT BELT BUCKLES WILL NOT LATCH OR WILL NOT UNLATCH. THERE ARE TWO CONDITIONS THAT RENDER THE BUCKLE INOPERATIVE AFTER CUSTOMER USAGE. SPECIFICALLY, (1) WITH A DAMAGED EJECTOR HOOD, THE LATCH TONGUE CANNOT FULLY ENTER THE BUCKLE AND WILL NOT LATCH; AND (2) IF THE RELEASE BAR MOVES PERMANENTLY OUT OF POSITION, THE BUCKLE WILL EITHER BE UNABLE TO ENGAGE THE LATCH OR THE PUSHBUTTON WILL BE UNABLE TO UNLATCH THE BUCKLE.

**Consequence:**

IN THE EVENT OF A CRASH, A SEAT OCCUPANT MAY NOT BE PROPERLY RESTRAINED INCREASING THE RISK OF PERSONAL INJURY.

**Remedy:**

DEALERS WILL INSPECT THE BUCKLES AND, IF FOUND TO BE INOPERATIVE, THE ENTIRE BUCKLE ASSEMBLY WOULD BE REPLACED. FOR BUCKLES FOUND TO BE OPERATIVE, DEALER WILL REPLACE ONLY THE UPPER BUCKLE COVER. THE MANUFACTURER HAS NOT YET PROVIDED AN OWNER NOTIFICATION SCHEDULE FOR THIS CAMPAIGN. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT CHEVROLET AT 1-800-630-2438 OR GMC AT 1-866-996-9463.

**Notes:**

GM RECALL NO. 05113. CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 except for the following items:

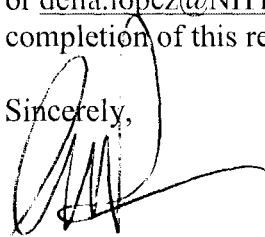
You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers.

Effective October 21, 2004, a manufacturer must provide an estimated dealer notification date as well as an owner notification date (month/day/year) when submitting a defect/noncompliance report (Part 573.6).

Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at [patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov](mailto:patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov) or [delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov](mailto:delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



George H. Person  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement