

GM SERVICE AND PARTS OPERATIONS  
DCS2082  
URGENT DISTRIBUTE IMMEDIATELY

Date: July 23, 2008

Subject: 08205 Product Safety Recall  
Fuel Tank Housing May contact Frame Side Rail

Models: 2008 Chevrolet Express  
2008 GMC Savana  
139" Wheel Base Cutaway

To: All Chevrolet and GMC Dealers

Attention: Service Manager, Parts Manager and Warranty Administrator

**PRODUCT FIELD ACTION ANNOUNCEMENT**

General Motors is announcing Product Safety Recall 08205 today. The total number of vehicles involved is 580. Please see the attached bulletin for details.

**Mailing Information**

Customer notification letter mailing will begin on July 30, 2008.

**GM Vehicle Inquiry System (GMVIS)**

GMVIS information will be available on July 23, 2008.

**Service Information System (SI)**

The bulletin is scheduled to be available on July 24, 2008.

**Campaign Initiation Detail Report (CIDR)**

The CIDR will be available in GM DealerWorld on July 23, 2008.

**PLEASE CLICK ON THE MESSAGE ATTACHMENT  
TO VIEW OR PRINT THE BULLETIN**

END OF MESSAGE  
GM SERVICE AND PARTS OPERATIONS

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Message Attachment(s):

 [08205 bulletin.pdf](#) Acrobat PDF (851.8KB)

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# Recall Bulletin



## PRODUCT SAFETY RECALL

**SUBJECT:** Fuel Tank Housing May Contact Frame Side Rail

**MODELS:** 2008 Chevrolet Express  
 2008 GMC Savana  
 139" Wheel Base Cutaway

CONDITION

General Motors has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in **certain** 2008 model year Chevrolet Express and GMC Savana cutaway vehicles with a 139" wheel base. On some of these vehicles, the frame rail on the driver's side may be wider than GM's specification. If the frame rail is wider than GM's specification, it may contact the fuel tank housing, resulting in a possible fuel leak. If a sufficient amount of fuel were to leak out, and if an ignition source were present, a vehicle fire could occur.

CORRECTION

Dealers are to inspect the clearance between the frame side rail and fuel tank housing. If there is sufficient clearance, no further action is required. If the clearance is not sufficient, dealers are to modify the frame side rail.

VEHICLES INVOLVED

Involved are **certain** 2008 model year Chevrolet Express and GMC Savana cutaway vehicles with a 139" wheel base, and built within these VIN breakpoints:

Year	Division	Model	From	Through
2008	Chevrolet	Express	81171865	81183365
2008	GMC	Savana	81172288	81907197

**Important:** Dealers are to confirm vehicle eligibility prior to beginning repairs by using the GM Vehicle Inquiry System (GMVIS). Not all vehicles within the above breakpoints may be involved.

For dealers with involved vehicles, a listing with involved vehicles containing the complete vehicle identification number, customer name, and address information has been prepared and will be provided through the applicable system listed below. Dealers will not have a report available if they have no involved vehicles currently assigned.

- US dealers - GM DealerWorld Recall Information
- Canadian dealers - GMInfoNet Recall Reports

The listing may contain customer names and addresses obtained from Motor Vehicle Registration Records. The use of such motor vehicle registration data for any purpose other than follow-up necessary to complete this recall is a violation of law in several states/provinces/countries. Accordingly, you are urged to limit the use of this report to the follow-up necessary to complete this recall.

### PARTS INFORMATION

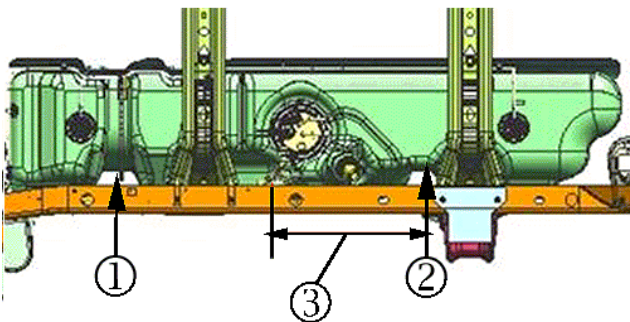
Parts required to complete this recall are to be obtained from General Motors Service and Parts Operations (GMSPO). Please refer to your "involved vehicles listing" before ordering parts. Normal orders should be placed on a DRO = Daily Replenishment Order. In an emergency situation, parts should be ordered on a CSO = Customer Special Order.

Part Number	Description	Quantity/Vehicle
12378399 (US) 10953457 (CN)	Compound, Anti-Corrosion	1 (will service 3 vehicles)

### SERVICE PROCEDURE

Frame Side Rail Inspection on Driver's Side of Vehicle

#### Vehicles without a Body



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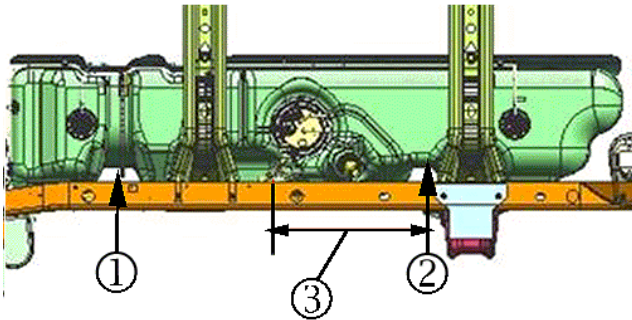
There are two fuel tank flange access areas located on the driver's side of the vehicle. Perform the frame side rail inspection at the rear fuel tank flange area (2) only. Do NOT inspect the frame side rail at the front fuel tank flange access area (1). Refer to the illustration to view the tank inspection area (3). The spring perch is near the rear fuel tank flange area.

**Important:** If the vehicle does not have a body (frame rail only), the frame rail inspection can be performed without removing the fuel tank. Inspect the frame rail from the top of the vehicle in the area outlined in the illustration. Refer to Steps 3-4 in *Vehicles with a Body* for inspection instructions. Follow Steps 5-15 in *Vehicles with a Body* if the frame side rail must be reworked.

### Vehicles with a Body

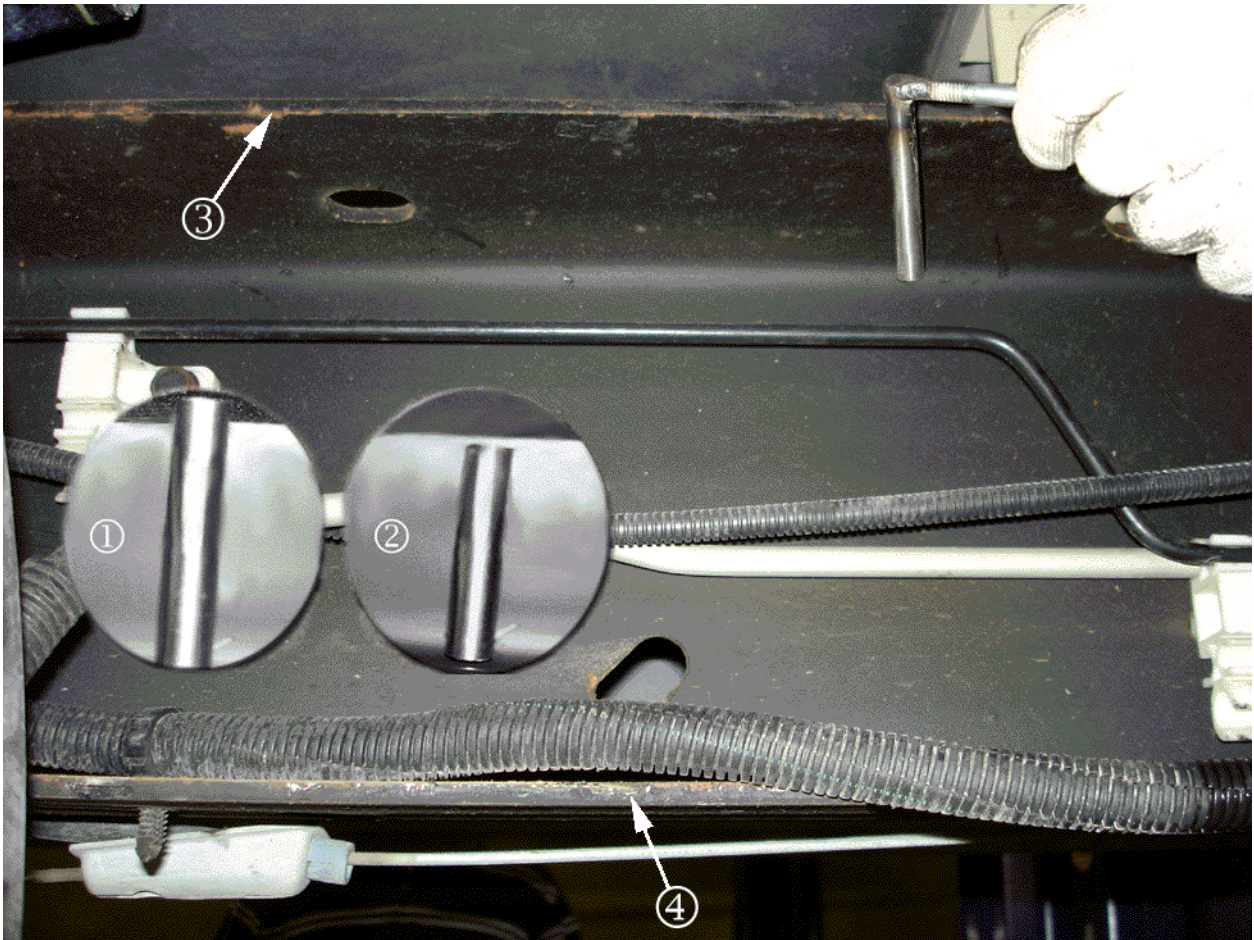
**Caution:** To avoid personal injury, read the following information before performing the frame rail inspection and frame side rail rework service procedure.

- The fuel tank must be removed before performing the inspection or frame rail rework procedure.
  - Any spilled gasoline must be cleaned up completely.
  - The rework process will generate sparks and all combustibles must be removed from the area.
  - The rework process takes place from the underside of the vehicle and personal protection equipment such as full face shield, gloves, long sleeves, etc., should be used to prevent injury during the repair process.
  - A small grinder with a cut off wheel (or equivalent) needs to be available to remove metal from the frame side rail if the frame side rail does **NOT** pass inspection.
1. Raise the vehicle. Refer to *Lifting and Jacking the Vehicle* in SI.
  2. Remove the fuel tank from the vehicle. Refer to *Fuel Tank Replacement (Cutaway Van Side Tank)* in SI.
  3. Purchase one piece of steel rod stock 6.35 mm (1/4 in) or 9.52 mm (3/8 in) diameter. Cut the steel rod stock to 76.8 mm (3.023 in) in length. The cut steel rod will be used as an inspection pin for inspecting the width of the top portion of the frame side rail.



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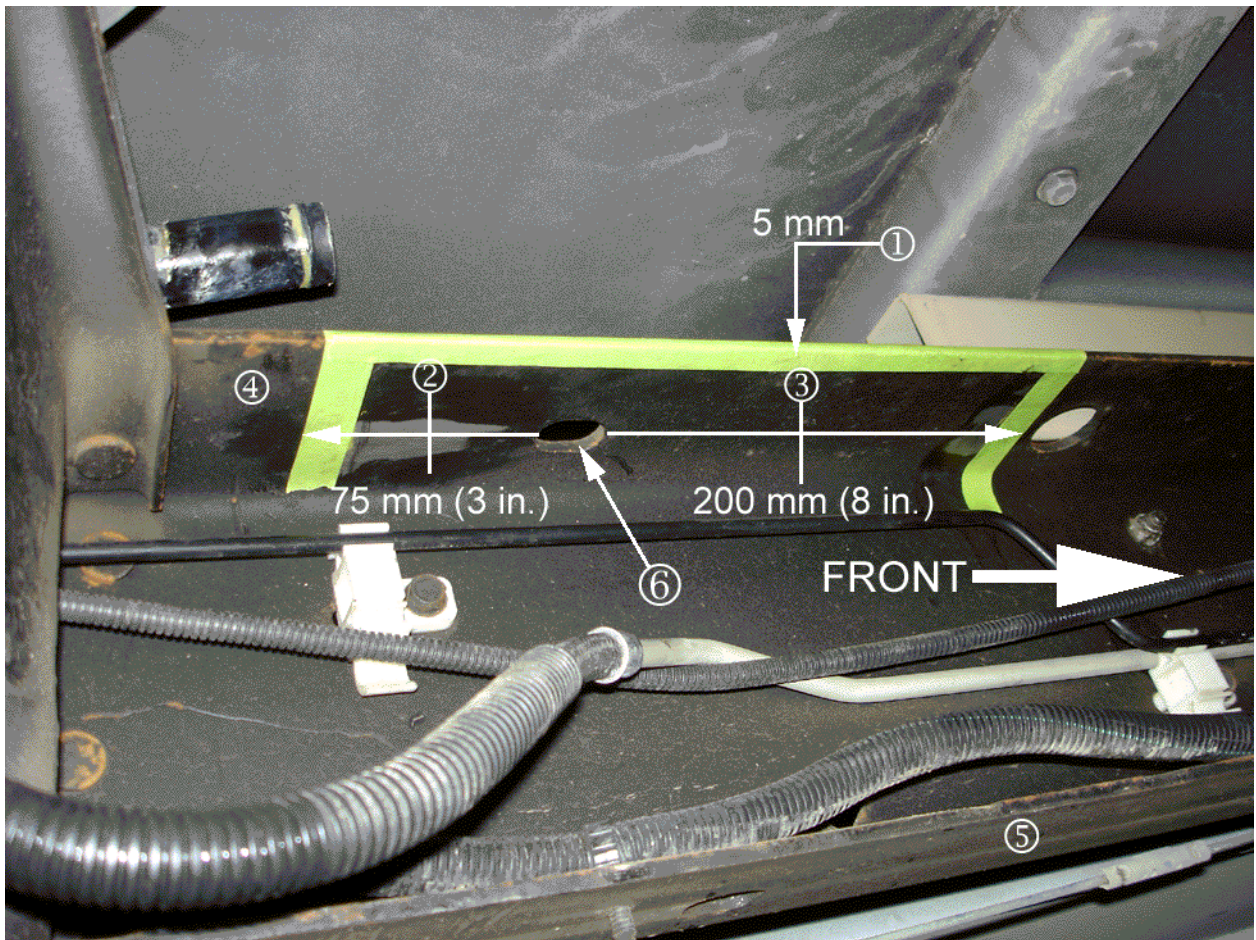
**Important:** There are two fuel tank flange access areas located on the driver's side of the vehicle. Perform the frame side rail inspection at the rear tank flange area (2) only. Do **NOT** inspect the frame side rail at the front fuel tank flange access area (1). Refer to the illustration to view the tank inspection area (3). The spring perch is near the rear fuel tank flange area.



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**Important:** Make sure the inspection pin is flat against the frame side rail web and **NOT** in the radius of the bend. An extra piece of steel stock was welded to the inspection pin to create a handle. This inspection pin handle is not required to perform the inspection.

4. Inspect the width of the frame side rail on the driver's side of the vehicle, near the rear fuel tank flange access area of the frame side rail. Insert the inspection pin along the width of the frame side rail as shown in the illustration. Inspect the top of the frame side rail (3) only. Do **NOT** inspect the bottom of the frame side rail (4).
  - If the inspection pin is equal to or longer than the width of the frame side rail (1), then the frame side rail is within the desired specification. Proceed to Step 14.
  - If the inspection pin is shorter than the width of the frame side rail (2), then the frame side rail is too wide and must be reworked to the proper width. Proceed to Step 5.
5. Make sure the fuel filler neck, lines, and harnesses, etc., in the rework area are protected before you perform the rework (i.e., use a welding blanket, metal guard, etc.).



2166633

6. Locate the reference slot (6) on the top portion of the frame side rail (4). The reference slot (6) on the frame side rail is located near where the rear fuel tank flange access area was located before removing the fuel tank.
7. Create a side frame rail rework template using masking tape or equivalent. Refer to the illustration.
  - 7.1. Measure 200 mm (8 in) forward (3) of the reference slot of the top side frame rail (4). Mark the dimension with a piece of tape.
  - 7.2. Measure 75 mm (3 in) rearward (2) of the reference slot. Mark the dimension with a piece of tape.
  - 7.3. Measure 5 mm (0.2 in) inward from the outer edge of the top portion of the frame side rail (1). Mark the dimension with a piece of tape. The tape should cover the entire length of the rework area (1).



2166610

8. Use a small hand grinder to remove 5 mm (0.2 in) of metal from the width of the frame side rail.
9. Remove sharp edges on the frame side rail in the rework area. Make sure that all of the edges of the frame side rail in the rework area have a similar quality. The upper flange of the frame side rail must have at least 5 mm (0.2 in) radii.



2166615

10. Using the inspection pin, ensure the frame side rail width is within the desired specification. If the inspection pin is equal to or longer than the side rail (1), then the side

rail is within the desired specification. Make sure that all upper flanges have at least 5 mm (0.2 in) radii (for/aft direction). The minimum upper flange width is 80.1 mm (3.15 in) outside of the frame side rail.

11. Apply anti-corrosion treatment, GM P/N 12378399, (or equivalent), to the bare metal edges of the frame rail rework area.
12. Remove all protection devices, and reinstall the filler neck, lines, harnesses, and surrounding components.
13. Inspect the fuel tank for damage. If the fuel tank is damaged, replace the fuel tank. Wholesale authorization will be required for fuel tank replacement.
14. Install the fuel tank. Refer to *Fuel Tank Replacement (Cutaway Van Side Tank)* in SI.
15. Lower the vehicle. Refer to *Lifting and Jacking the Vehicle* in SI.

### CLAIM INFORMATION

Submit a Product Recall Claim with the information indicated below:

<b>Repair Performed</b>	<b>Part Count</b>	<b>Part No.</b>	<b>Parts Allow</b>	<b>CC_FC</b>	<b>Labor Op</b>	<b>Labor Hours</b>	<b>Net Item</b>
Frame Inspection (Body Off) – No Further Action Required	N/A	N/A	N/A	MA-96	V1842	0.2	*
Frame Inspection (Body On)– No Further Action Required	N/A	N/A	N/A	MA-96	V1843	2.4	*
Frame Inspection (Body On or Off) and Frame Repair**	N/A	N/A	N/A	MA-96	V1844	3.1	***

\* The amount identified in the “Net Item” column should represent the actual cost of the steel rod, not to exceed \$5.00 (USD/CAD).

\*\* Fuel tank replacement will require wholesale authorization.

\*\*\* The amount identified in the “Net Item” column should represent the actual sum total of the current GMSPO Dealer net price for the anti-corrosion compound needed to perform the required repairs, not to exceed \$2.55 (USD/CAD) plus applicable Mark-Up, and for the cost of the steel rod, not to exceed \$5.00 (USD/CAD).

Refer to the General Motors WINS Claims Processing Manual for details on Product Recall Claim Submission.

### CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION

General Motors will notify customers of this recall on their vehicle (see copy of customer letter included with this bulletin).

### DEALER RECALL RESPONSIBILITY – For US (US States, Territories, and Possessions)

The US National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act provides that each vehicle that is subject to a recall of this type must be adequately repaired within a reasonable time after the customer has tendered it for repair. A failure to repair within sixty days after tender of a vehicle is prima facie evidence of failure to repair within a reasonable time. If the condition is not adequately repaired within a reasonable time, the customer may be entitled to an identical or reasonably equivalent vehicle at no charge or to a refund of the purchase price less a reasonable allowance for depreciation. To avoid having to provide these burdensome remedies, every



effort must be made to promptly schedule an appointment with each customer and to repair their vehicle as soon as possible. In the recall notification letters, customers are told how to contact the US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration if the recall is not completed within a reasonable time.

### DEALER RECALL RESPONSIBILITY

All unsold new vehicles in dealers' possession and subject to this recall must be held and inspected/repaired per the service procedure of this recall bulletin before customers take possession of these vehicles.

Dealers are to service all vehicles subject to this recall at no charge to customers, regardless of mileage, age of vehicle, or ownership, from this time forward.

Customers who have recently purchased vehicles sold from your vehicle inventory, and for which there is no customer information indicated on the dealer listing, are to be contacted by the dealer. Arrangements are to be made to make the required correction according to the instructions contained in this bulletin. A copy of the customer letter is provided in this bulletin for your use in contacting customers. Recall follow-up cards should not be used for this purpose, since the customer may not as yet have received the notification letter.

In summary, whenever a vehicle subject to this recall enters your vehicle inventory, or is in your dealership for service in the future, you must take the steps necessary to be sure the recall correction has been made before selling or releasing the vehicle.



July 2008

Dear General Motors Customer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

General Motors has decided that a defect that relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2008 model year Chevrolet Express and GMC Savana cutaway vehicles with a 139" wheel base. As a result, GM is conducting a safety recall. We apologize for this inconvenience. However, we are concerned about your safety and continued satisfaction with our products.

### I M P O R T A N T

- Your vehicle is involved in safety recall 08205.
- Schedule an appointment with your GM dealer.
- This service will be performed for you at **no charge**.

#### **Why is your vehicle being recalled?**

The frame rail on the driver's side may be wider than GM's specification. If the frame rail is wider than GM's specification, it may contact the fuel tank housing, resulting in a possible fuel leak. If a sufficient amount of fuel were to leak out, and if an ignition source were present, a vehicle fire could occur.

#### **What will we do?**

Your GM dealer will inspect the clearance between the frame side rail and the fuel tank housing. If there is sufficient clearance, no further action is required. If the clearance is not sufficient, your GM dealer will modify the frame side rail. This service will be performed for you at **no charge**. Because of service scheduling requirements, it is likely that your dealer will need your vehicle longer than the actual inspection time of approximately 2 hours and 25 minutes. If frame side rail modification is necessary, an additional 45 minutes will be required.

#### **What should you do?**

You should contact your GM dealer to arrange a service appointment as soon as possible. Bring the enclosed customer reply form with you when you visit your dealer. The form identifies the repairs required. If you no longer own this vehicle, please let us know by completing the form and mailing it back to us.

#### **Do you have questions?**

If you have questions or concerns that your dealer is unable to resolve, please contact the appropriate Customer Assistance Center at the number listed below. More information about this recall can be found at the Owner Center at MyGMLink, <http://www.gm.com/recall>

Division	Number	Text Telephones (TTY)
Chevrolet	1-800-630-2438	1-800-833-2438
GMC	1-866-996-9463	1-800-462-8583
Guam	1-671-648-8450	
Puerto Rico – English	1-800-496-9992	
Puerto Rico – Español	1-800-496-9993	
Virgin Islands	1-800-496-9994	

If after contacting your dealer and the Customer Assistance Center, you are still not satisfied we have done our best to remedy this condition without charge and within a reasonable time, you may wish to write the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington DC 20590, or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1.888.327.4236 (TTY 1.800.424.9153), or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

Federal regulation requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

Scott Lawson  
General Director,  
Customer and Relationship Services

Enclosure  
08205