



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

February 19, 2009

MR. THOMAS J. KNOBLAUCH  
VICE PRESIDENT, GENERAL COUNSEL  
DORMAN PRODUCTS, INC.  
3400 EAST WALNUT STREET  
COLMAR, PA 18915

NVS-215kjs  
09E-005

Subject: STEERING KNUCKLE BREAKING/LOSS OF STEERING CONTROL

Dear MR. KNOBLAUCH:

This letter serves to acknowledge Dorman Products, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety defect in the products described below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30119.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

**Mfg's Report Date:** February 11, 2009

NAPA/7-8502/9999  
NAPA/7-8503/9999  
PLATINUM/2697902/9999  
PLATINUM/2697903/9999  
MPI/2697902/9999  
MPI/2697903/9999  
BUICK/CENTURY/1997-2005  
BUICK/LACROSSE/2005-2007  
BUICK/REGAL/1997-2004  
BUICK/TERRAZA/2005-2007  
CHEVROLET/IMPALA/2000-2007  
CHEVROLET/MONTE CARLO/2000-2007  
CHEVROLET/UPLANDER/2005-2007  
CHEVROLET/VENTURE/1997-2005  
OLDSMOBILE/INTRIGUE/1998-2002  
OLDSMOBILE/SILHOUETTE/1997-2004  
PONTIAC/GRAND PRIX/1997-2007  
PONTIAC/MONTANA/1999-2005  
SATURN/RELAY/2005-2007

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 09E-005    **Components:** SERVICE BRAKES, AIR

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 979

**Summary:**

DORMAN IS RECALLING 979 STEERING KNUCKLES, DORMAN P/NOS. 697-902 AND 697-903, SOLD UNDER DORMAN'S "OE SOLUTIONS™" BRAND NAME, AND NAPA P/NOS. 7-8502 AND 7-8503 WHICH WERE SOLD FOR REPLACEMENT USE ON THE VARIOUS VEHICLES LISTED ABOVE. A POTENTIAL MATERIAL OR DESIGN DEFECT COULD RESULT IN THE STEERING KNUCKLE BREAKING IN THE HUB AREA.

**Consequence:**

A BROKEN STEERING KNUCKLE COULD RESULT IN LOSS OF STEERING CONTROL AND A POSSIBLE CRASH WITHOUT WARNING.

**Remedy:**

DORMAN WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND REPLACE THE DEFECTIVE STEERING KNUCKLES FREE OF CHARGE AND REIMBURSE THE REPAIR FACILITY OR OWNER FOR LABOR. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT MARCH 20, 2009. OWNERS MAY CONTACT DORMAN'S TOLL-FREE HOTLINE AT 1-800-523-2492.

**Notes:**

THIS RECALL ONLY PERTAINS TO AFTERMARKET DORMAN STEERING KNUCKLES AND HAS NO RELATION TO ANY ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT INSTALLED ON VEHICLES MANUFACTURED BY GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION. OWNERS MAY 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).

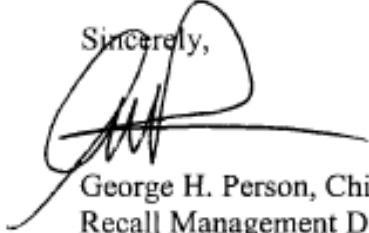
The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

We have reviewed your proposed owner letter and envelope and they meet the requirements of 49 CFR Part 577. 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 required 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).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at [Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov](mailto:Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov), or through the office email at [RMD.ODI@dot.gov](mailto:RMD.ODI@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Person', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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