



February 9, 2010

Mr. Daniel C. Smith  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE – Room W45-306  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

The following information is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 as it applies to a determination by Saab and a concurrence by General Motors of a safety defect involving certain 2004 model year Saab 9-3 Sedan vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Saab Automobile AB (Saab), a subsidiary of General Motors (the designated agent for Saab).

573.6(c)(2)(3)(4): This information is shown on the attached sheet.

573.6(c)(5): Saab has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2004 model year Saab 9-3 Sedans. Some of these vehicles were produced with front seat belt retractors that, over time, could have the Automatic Tensioning System (ATS) cable break; causing webbing spooled out by the user to not retract. This condition would be obvious to the driver or passenger.

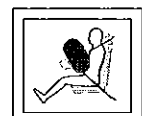
573.6(c)(6): On September 30, 2009, NHTSA opened PE09-048 on 5 VOQs alleging the driver seat belt will no longer retract on 2004 Saab 9-3 vehicles built after September 30, 2003.

On November 13, 2009, GM submitted a response the NHTSA.

In December 2009 and January 2010, surveys were conducted of customers who had a retractor replaced to understand how many were due to ATS cable separation.

On January 28, 2010, the Saab Management Decision Meeting authorized a field action for certain 2004 Saab 9-3 models. On February 2, 2010, the GM Executive Field Action Decision Committee decided to conduct a Safety Recall for the driver side retractor and a 10 year Special Coverage for the passenger side retractor.

573.6(c)(8): Dealers are to replace the driver side retractor. A Special Coverage will be released for the same population to replace the passenger side retractors for 10 years from new vehicle date of sale.



Pursuant to 577.11(e), GM will provide reimbursement to owners for repairs completed on or before ten days after the owner mailing is completed, according to the plan submitted on January 22, 2009.

573.6(c)(10): GM will provide the dealer bulletin and owner letter when available. GM anticipates that the dealer bulletin and owner letters will be sent in March 2010.

Sincerely,

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

Gay P. Kent,  
Director, Product Investigations  
and Safety Regulations

E090273  
Attachment

573.6(c)(2),(3),(4)

VEHICLES POTENTIALLY AFFECTED BY MAKE, MODEL, AND MODEL YEAR  
PLUS INCLUSIVE DATES OF MANUFACTURE

<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL SERIES</u>	<u>MODEL YEAR</u>	<u>NUMBER INVOLVED</u>	<u>INCLUSIVE MANUFACTURING DATES (FROM) (TO)</u>	<u>DESCRIPTIVE INFO. TO PROPERLY IDENT. VEH.</u>	<u>EST. NO. W/CONDITION</u>
Saab	9-3	2004	14,126	09/2003 05/2004	Sedan	*
GM Total:			14,126			

\* All involved vehicles will be corrected as necessary.

573.6(c)(2)(iv): The component part that will be replaced to remedy the defect is the retractor supplied by Takata.

TAKATA-PETRI AG  
Bahnweg 1  
63743 Aschaffenburg, Germany  
albrecht.plag@eu.takata.com

The parts were manufactured in Krzeszow, Poland.

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