



GENERAL MOTORS LLC
Global Interior and Safety Center

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By Recall Management Division at 11:50 am, Mar 17, 2010

10V-105
(3 Pages)

March 15, 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 General Motors of a safety defect involving certain 2003-2007 model year Cadillac CTS vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Cadillac Brand of General Motors LLC

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

573.6(c)(5): General Motors has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2003-2007 model year Cadillac CTS vehicles currently registered in or originally sold in Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington D.C., West Virginia and Wisconsin. Some of these vehicles have a condition in which the front brake hose fitting at the caliper may corrode due to snow or water, containing road salt or other contaminants, entering and being retained in the routing sleeve. If the fitting corrodes significantly, the brake hose-tube interface may develop a leak. A sign of a brake hose-tube interface leak would be fluid spotting on the ground. If enough fluid were lost, the brake system warning light and a "Check Brake Fluid" message in the Driver Information Center would illuminate (in rare cases, the brake hose-tube interface may rupture suddenly without prior warning), and vehicle stopping distance may increase.

573.6(c)(6): On April 6, 2009, GM initiated an investigation of this condition. The overall brake hose replacement showed a very low rate at 36 months in service for 2003-2007 model year vehicles. GM contacted dealerships and made a request to remove the front brake hoses from Certified Used Vehicles and send them to the Warranty Part Center for a survey. In June, the first set of field return brake hoses arrived from corrosion states at the Warranty Part Center and these showed no fracture of the hose assembly. In August, GM received a pair of field return parts from Canada with fractures at the brake-tube eyelet. GM identified the root cause of the fracture at the brake-tube eyelet as reverse bending fatigue which was a consequence of corrosion at the fitting crimp area.



GM continued to collect a total of 65 parts from the field through January 2010. GMNA Corrosion Engineering conducted material and corrosion analysis from the returned samples between June 2009 and March 2010. Between December 2009 and January 2010, the field rate analysis was updated. The analysis using field data through December 2009, predicts that the Incident Per Thousand Vehicle (IPTV) for all non-corrosion states is significantly lower (26 times) than the IPTV for all corrosion states at 10 years. In February, GM began escalating the issue through the FPE approval process.

GM is not aware of any reported crashes, injuries, or fatalities associated with the CTS brake hose leaks due to corrosion.

The issue was presented to the Field Performance Evaluation Review Committee on February 19, 2010 and on March 8, 2010, the Executive Field Action Decision Committee decided to conduct a safety recall.

573.6(c)(8): Dealers are to replace both front brake hose assemblies.

GM anticipates that the dealer bulletin will be sent in May 2010 and will begin mailing owner letters in May 2010 and will conclude in June 2010.

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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Kent', written in a cursive style.

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

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> |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| Cadillac | D-Car | 2003 | | | CTS | * |
| Cadillac | D-Car | 2004 | | | CTS | " |
| Cadillac | D-Car | 2005 | | | CTS | " |
| Cadillac | D-Car | 2006 | | | CTS | " |
| Cadillac | D-Car | 2007 | | | CTS | " |

GM Total:

* All involved vehicles will be corrected as necessary.

Volume of vehicles and manufacturing dates will be provided at a later date.

573.6(c)(2)(iv): The component part that will be replaced to remedy the defect is the front brake hose assemblies supplied by Harco.

Harco
3535 Kettering Blvd
Moraine, OH 45439
937-528-5000