



Service Bulletin

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

Subject: Rear Axle Leak From The Vent

Models: 2011-2013 Cadillac CTS CTS-V

The following diagnosis might be helpful if the vehicle exhibits the symptom(s) described in this PI.

Condition/Concern

Some customers may comment on a fluid leak from the rear of the vehicle. In rare instances the customer may comment on an oily film on the rear bumper of the vehicle. Further inspection may indicate a leak from the rear axle assembly.

Recommendation/Instructions

1. Place the vehicle in neutral.
2. Raise and support the vehicle. Refer to Lifting and Jacking the Vehicle in SI.
3. Determine if the leak is coming from the rear axle differential vent.
4. If the leak is not coming from the axle vent, then do not proceed to the next step. Refer to Rear Axle Lubricant Leak Diagnosis in SI.
5. Remove the rear propeller shaft. Refer to Rear Propeller Shaft Replacement in SI.
6. Remove the rear axle mounting fasteners, Refer to Differential Replacement in SI.
7. Lower the rear axle enough to gain access to the rear differential vent, located on the top of the axle.
8. Pry the top of the metal rear differential vent cap off.
9. Discard the old vent cap and spring.
10. Obtain a 9.50 mm (3/8 in) inside diameter hose by 30.50 cm (12 in) long of rubber low fuel pressure/oil resistant hose or equivalent, a new differential vent, P/N 15852707, and two hose clamps.
11. Assemble the new vent onto the hose with a clamp.
12. Tighten the clamp.
13. Install the second clamp onto the hose.
14. Attach the other end of the rear differential hose assembly to the axle vent.
15. Position the second clamp around the rear axle vent and hose.
16. Tighten the second clamp.
17. Raise the axle assembly back into the vehicle.
18. Install the rear axle mounting fasteners Refer to Differential Replacement in SI.
Important: To prevent a rattle from occurring, make sure the vent cap is not touching anything when tied down.
19. Tie strap the hose and vent assembly to the rear cross member frame.
Important: An over-filled differential will cause fluid to seep out of the rear axle vent.
20. Check the differential fluid level. Refer to Rear Axle Lubricant Level Inspection in SI.
21. Clean off any axle fluid residue with GM Brake Cleaner, P/N 12378392 (in Canada, P/N 88901247), or the equivalent.
22. Install the rear propeller shaft back into the vehicle. Refer to Rear Propeller Shaft Replacement in SI.

Parts Information

Part Number	Description	Qty
15852707	Vent, Rear Axle	As Required
1648216	Clamp, Hose	2
12337820	Strap, Nylon	2
9439238	Hose, 3/8 Fuel and Oil Resistant (25 ft)	1
89021677 (U.S.) 89021678 (Canada)	Synthetic Axle Lubricant (75W90)	1

Warranty Information

For vehicles repaired under warranty use:

Labor Operation	Description	Labor Time
F9706*	Install Rear Differential Hose and Vent	1.8 hours
*This labor operation is for bulletin use only. It will not be published in the Labor Time Guide.		

Please follow this diagnostic or repair process thoroughly and complete each step. If the condition exhibited is resolved without completing every step, the remaining steps do not need to be performed.

GM bulletins are intended for use by professional technicians, NOT a "do-it-yourselfer". They are written to inform these technicians of conditions that may occur on some vehicles, or to provide information that could assist in the proper service of a vehicle. Properly trained technicians have the equipment, tools, safety instructions, and know-how to do a job properly and safely. If a condition is described, DO NOT assume that the bulletin applies to your vehicle, or that your vehicle will have that condition. See your GM dealer for information on whether your vehicle may benefit from the information.



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