



# Service Bulletin

File in Section: -

Bulletin No.: PIC5703A

Date: June, 2013

## PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

**Subject:** Fuel Gauge Inoperative / DTC P0461 Set

**Models:** 2012-2014 Chevrolet Sonic

**This PI was superseded to update model years and add customer info section.  
Please discard PIC5703.**

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

### Condition/Concern

The customer may comment that their fuel gauge is inoperative and the gauge is stuck on E with a full tank of fuel. Upon Diagnosis the dealer technician may find DTC P0461 set in the ECM and after clearing the code the gauge will begin to read correctly.

### Recommendation/Instructions

Before replacing any parts, verify concern is not being induced by the customer performing the following:

1. Frequently topping off the fuel tank (i.e. Drives the vehicle and refills the tank before the Fuel Gauge drops below Full)
2. Overfilling the fuel tank past the automatic shut-off of the pump.

The fuel tank level sensor is calibrated to a specific level in the fuel tank to be the full mark. While driving the vehicle, the ECM performs a calculation based on mileage and fuel usage. If the vehicle does not use the proper amount of fuel in a given mileage, the code P0461 can set and cause the fuel gauge to default to Empty. Explain to the customer on the importance of not over filling the fuel tank or refilling too frequently, it is recommended that the vehicle is filled with the ignition turned off and to NOT continue adding fuel after the pump shuts off automatically.

### Customer Information

Please communicate to the customer this condition is a normal operating characteristic of their vehicle. It will not impact the designed performance or reliability of the vehicle. Please share this information with the customer, including a copy of this message.

### Parts Information

Part Number	Description	Qty

### Warranty Information

For vehicles repaired under warranty, use:

Labor Operation	Description	Labor Time
* This is a unique labor operation 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 It will not be published in the Labor Time Guide.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.