

# **Service Bulletin**

## PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

### Subject: Service 4 Wheel Drive Message After Flat/Dinghy Towing

Models: 2014-2015 Chevrolet Silverado 2014-2015 GMC Sierra 2015 Chevrolet Suburban, Tahoe 2015 GMC Sierra, Yukon 2015 Cadillac Escalade Equipped with NQH transfer case 2015 Chevrolet Colorado 2015 GMC Canyon Equipped with NQ6 transfer case

### This PI was superseded to update Vehicle Models. Please discard PIP5217

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 service 4wd message and the transfer case is stuck in neutral. This condition only occurs when the customer dinghy tows the vehicle or sets the vehicle up for dinghy towing and disconnects then reconnects the battery as outlined in the owner's manual. Technician will find a c0398 stored in the tccm (transfer case control module).

### **Recommendation/Instructions**

Verify that the customer has dinghy towed the vehicle or set the vehicle up for dinghy towing as outlined in the owner's manual and then disconnected the battery with the transfer case in neutral. If the vehicle has a c0398 after this type of procedure clear the diagnostic trouble code and return the vehicle to the customer with a copy of this pi. An owner's manual supplement will be sent to owners to include steps 5.1 - 5.4. If a customer happens to call your dealership indicating that the transfer case is stuck in neutral after dinghy towing and cannot be shifted out of neutral accompanied with a service 4wd message in the DIC, the following sequence will restore transfer case shifting.

- 1. With the ignition in the RUN position and engine not running,
- 2. Open the hood and remove the 30 Amp TREC fuse in the under hood fuse block,
- 3. Reinstall the 30 amp fuse
- 4. Continue with "Shifting out of neutral" in the owner's manual.

**Note:** Removing the TREC fuse with the key on may cause additional messages to appear on the DIC including service stabilitrak. After the transfer case is shifted out of neutral turn the vehicle off, restart the vehicle and those messages should not reappear.

Only dinghy tow four-wheel-drive vehicles with a two-speed transfer case that have an N (Neutral) and a Four-Wheel Drive Low (4 (n) setting.

Warning: Shifting a four-wheel-drive vehicle's transfer case into N (Neutral) can cause the vehicle to roll even if the transmission is in P (Park). You or others could be injured. Set the parking brake before shifting the transfer case to N (Neutral).

Follow these steps to dinghy tow:

- 1. Position the vehicle being towed behind the tow vehicle, facing forward and on a level surface.
- 2. Securely attach the vehicle being towed to the tow vehicle.

- 3. Apply the parking brake and start the engine.
- 4. Shift the transfer case to N (Neutral). See "Shifting into N (Neutral)" under Four-Wheel Drive for the proper procedure. Check that the vehicle is in N (Neutral) by shifting the transmission to R (Reverse) and then to D (Drive). There should be no movement of the vehicle while shifting
- 5. With the transmission in D (Drive), turn the ignition to ACC/ACCESSORY
  - 5.1. Shift transmission to P (Park) and turn ignition off.
  - 5.2: Wait 30 seconds before proceeding to the next step.
  - 5.3: Start the engine and shift transmission to D (Drive) verify that the transfer case is still in neutral.
  - 5.4: With the transmission in D (Drive), turn the ignition to ACC/ACCESSORY.
  - 5.4: With the transmission in D (Drive), turn the ignition to ACC/ACCESSORY.

**Caution:** Failure to perform steps 5 through 5.4 exactly as outlined may cause the transfer case control module to set a diagnostic trouble code and will not allow further shifting of the transfer case which if in neutral will cause no vehicle movement.

Caution: Failure to disconnect the negative battery cable or to have it contact the terminals can cause damage to the vehicle.

- 6. Disconnect the negative battery cable at the battery and secure the nut and bolt. Cover the negative battery post with a non-conductive material to prevent any contact with the negative battery terminal.
- 7. Shift the transmission to P (Park).

Caution: If the steering column is locked, vehicle damage may occur.

- 8. Move the steering wheel to make sure the steering column is unlocked.
- 9. Release the parking brake.
- 10. Keep the ignition key in the towed vehicle in ACC/ACCESSORY to prevent the steering column from locking.

This information ONLY applies to vehicles setting this code immediately after reconnecting the battery after dinghy towing, any other vehicle setting a c0398 should be diagnosed using service information

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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