



Preliminary Information

PIC5453D Handling Requests For Modifications To Permanently Import / Export Vehicles Between The US And Canada

Models

Brand:	Model:	Model Years:	VIN:		Engine:	Transmissions:
			from	to		
All	All	2000 - 2020	All	All	All	All

Supersession Statement

This PI was superseded to update Recommendations / Instructions. Please discard any copies of PIC5453C.

Condition / Concern

General Motors (GM) and General Motors of Canada Company (GMCC) do not support cross border sales. Dealers are not authorized under their agreements with GM or GM Canada to sell vehicles for export. Dealers in Canada should refer to GMCC Home Office Letter #2015-704 Vehicle Export, Import & Sale for Resale.

Customers that live in one country but plan on moving to the other should contact the GM Customer Care Center (CCC) for information on warranty coverage. For additional information to assist our Customers, refer below to the section applicable for their destination.

IMPORTANT: GM cannot facilitate the import/export of vehicles with Branded titles (i.e., salvaged, totaled, rebuilt, etc.) or vehicles first sold as incomplete vehicles.

IMPORTANT: Recall clearance must be verified prior to importing the vehicle in order to avoid any delays during the import process. Open recalls must be addressed in the country of the vehicles existing registration prior to importation. GM cannot make any exceptions for Recalls that remain Open due to lack of parts.

Recommendations / Instructions

Exporting / Importing Vehicles from Canada to the USA

A customer may be permanently relocating from Canada to the United States and request to make modifications to their vehicle in order to meet U.S. requirements.

Before purchasing and importing a vehicle into the USA, the Customer should be directed to the General Motors of Canada Customer Care Centre for information on vehicle admissibility.

The General Motors of Canada Customer Care Centre is the sole authorized provider of a certification confirmation letter which helps our customers identify if their vehicles meets the required USA regulatory standards necessary for importation into the USA. Contact the General Motors of Canada Customer Care Centre at 1-800-263-3777 (English) or 1-800-263-7854 (French).

General Motors of Canada provides this service at no charge to our Customers as long as the vehicle is being imported for personal use and not for resale according to Box 2B of US DOT Declaration Form HS-7 (http://icsw.nhtsa.gov/cars/rules/import/HS7_r.v.7.pdf).

In the case where GM Canada CCC is not able furnish a compliance letter, the vehicle could only be imported into the United States on a permanent basis under Box 3 on the HS-7 Declaration form. Customers should be directed to a Registered Importer (RI) to modify the vehicle so that it complies with all applicable FMVSS following importation.

A list of RI's in active status with NHTSA can be found at www.nhtsa.gov/cars/rules/import.

General Motors of Canada does not provide support for customers importing or exporting vehicles to and from countries other than the USA.

IMPORTANT: In some situations, it may not be possible to install a US Instrument Panel Cluster into a Canadian vehicle, as the required software calibrations may not be available.

Safety:

A General Motors of Canada certification confirmation letter may be issued to the Customer who is personally importing a vehicle if it complies with required FMVSS and is admissible to the USA under the provisions of NHTSA 49 CFR Part 591.5(g). Some CMVSS-certified vehicles may not meet some FMVSS such as FMVSS 138 TPMS and FMVSS 208 Passenger Airbag status indicator labeling. The Customer should contact GM Canada CCC to determine if vehicle is admissible to the USA. It may be possible to retrofit their vehicle to comply. This is a Customer-paid expense; not covered by GM warranty. The Customer will need to provide a Repair Order from a GM Dealer to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agent as evidence that specified retrofit work was completed.

Emissions:

General Motors (GM) vehicles sold in Canada must comply with Canadian emission standards. Since 1998 model year, Canadian emissions regulations have been aligned with those of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). A selected number of Canadian vehicles are certified for all 50 states for emissions. It is important to refer the customer to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) of the destination State to determine if the vehicle is admissible since a number of States have aligned with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Standards rather than the EPA Standards. GM will not retrofit a vehicle to meet CARB if it is already certified to EPA Federal emissions standards. 1996-1997 MY GM Canada vehicles were not compliant to EPA emissions standards and need to have the OBD retrofit completed before considered compliant. As noted in GM Service Bulletin [#02-06-04-039](#), the retrofit can only be completed by a GM U.S. dealer at the customer's expense. Customer will need to provide a Repair Order from a GM Dealer to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agent as evidence that specified retrofit work was completed.

Warranty Coverage in USA:

IMPORTANT: Refer to GM service bulletin [#16-NA-119: Warranty Administration - Servicing Vehicles from Canada \(U.S. Dealers Only\)](#)

GM Service Policy & Procedures indicate that Canadian owners that are relocating their residence to the U.S. must register their vehicle properly in the U.S. and if applicable, pay the cost to have their odometer converted to miles by an authorized GM Electronic Service Center for the vehicle to be eligible for warranty coverage. Some vehicles may provide distance readouts in the original country's unit of measure (e.g. kilometers) and also miles and therefore do not require conversion. In keeping with the General Motors Export Policy, New vehicles originally sold in Canada must have been in service in Canada for at least six (6) months and must have at least 12,000 kilometers (7,500 miles) before a GM Service Agent in the U.S. is authorized to perform warranty work.

Exporting / Importing Vehicles from the USA to Canada

A customer may be permanently relocating from the United States to Canada and request to make modifications to their vehicle in order to meet Canadian requirements.

Before purchasing and importing a vehicle into Canada, the Customer should be directed to the Registrar of Imported Vehicles (RIV) program, for information on vehicle admissibility, RIV exemptions, recall clearance documentation, vehicle modification requirements, vehicle branding history and Environment Canada requirements <http://www.riv.ca>).

General Motors of Canada Company does not provide support for customers importing or exporting vehicles to and from countries other than the USA.

While we make no claims about the accuracy, we understand that the following website associated with the Registrar of Imported Vehicles (RIV) and created by Transport Canada has information regarding the importation of vehicles into Canada, including the legal requirements for modifications to such vehicles. <http://www.riv.ca>

Warranty Coverage in Canada:

IMPORTANT: For latest dealer Documentation & Policy Updates, GMCC dealers should refer to General Motors of Canada Home Office Letter #2015-704 Subject: Vehicle Export, Import & Sale for Resale.



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