




Bulletin No.: PIC6581
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Preliminary Information

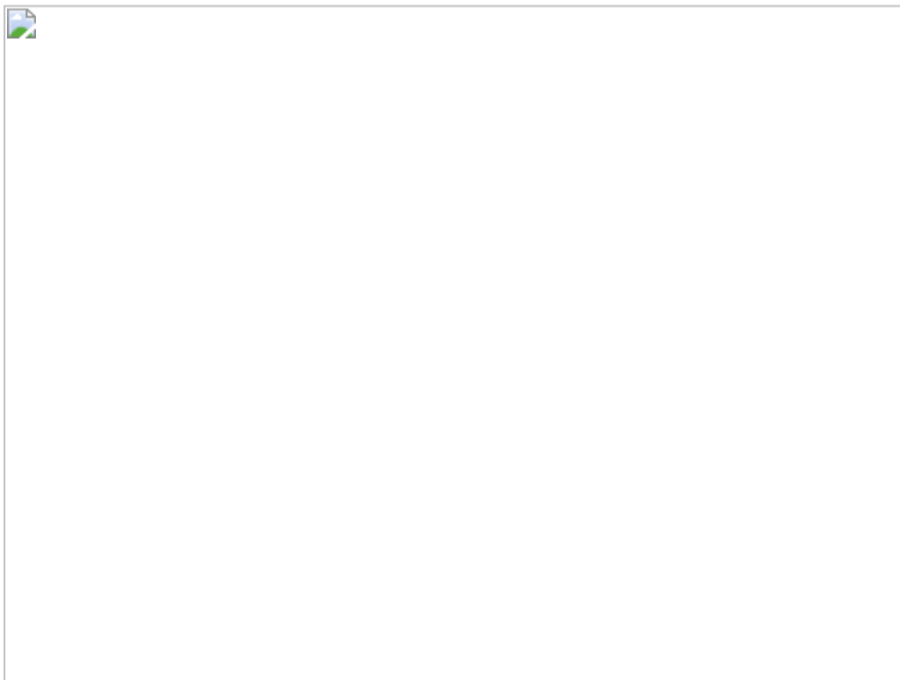
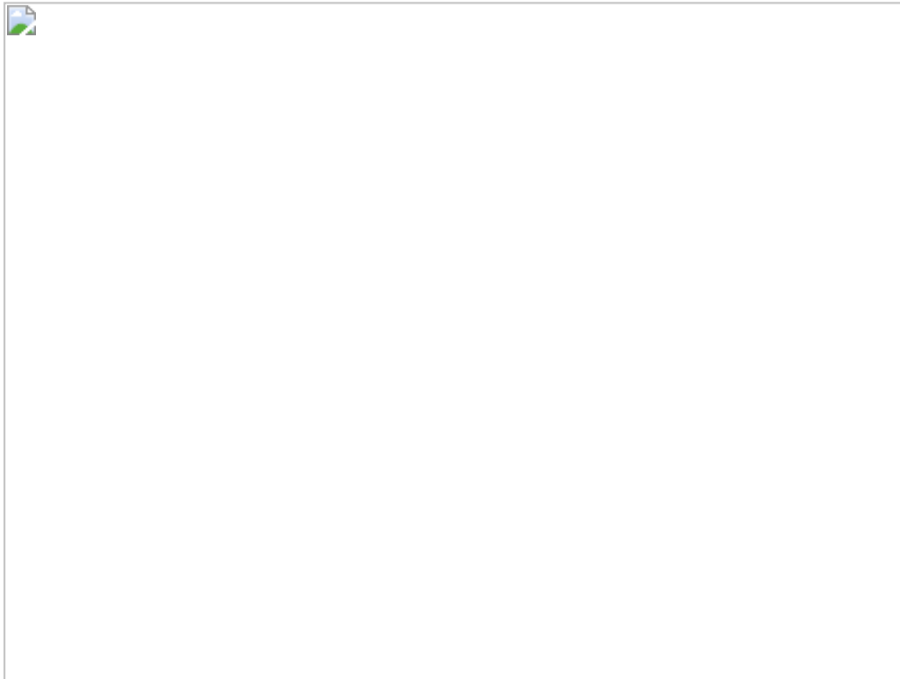
PIC6581 Diagnostic Tip - Determining an OEM vs an Aftermarket Muffler on a C8 Corvette

Models

Brand: Chevrolet **Model:** Corvette **Model Years:** 2020 - 2025 **VIN:** All **Engine:** All **Transmissions:** All

Involved Region or Country	<p>North America</p>
Condition	<p>Some technicians may service a C8 Corvette (2020+) for a a complaint of a CEL that is related to the exhaust system.</p>
Cause	<p>The GM Technical Assistance Center (TAC) has been fielding many calls with various exhaust related DTCs on the Chevrolet Corvette C8 (model year 2020 +) generation. When diagnosing the exhaust system on one of these vehicles, it is important to first check to see if the system has been modified with aftermarket equipment. There are 4 categories that the exhaust system may fall into on these vehicles. If there is any question at the dealership level about what type of exhaust the vehicle being serviced has, please create a TAC case and send in quality photographs of the exhaust system in question. They will be reviewed and you will be informed of what type of system is in the photographs. Please refer to bulletin 23-NA-103 for instructions on submitting quality photographs to TAC. They receive many poor quality, and otherwise blurry photographs on a regular basis, and this only delays the repair process for the dealership , and ultimately, the customer.</p> <p>The 4 different categories are as follows:</p> <p>Category 1 - Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) exhaust - The photo below is an example of a stock exhaust on a Corvette Stingray that the vehicle was built with at the assembly plant. The OEM system is available with either polished or black colored exhaust tips. Some characteristics of the Stingray OEM exhaust include square exhaust tips and a matte-black colored heat shield around the body of the muffler. If it has been determined that the vehicle has an OEM exhaust, and assistance is needed to diagnose any concern with it, refer to SI or contact TAC for assistance.</p> <div data-bbox="250 1997 1539 2413" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 150px; margin: 10px 0;">  </div> <p>Category 2 - Borla GM Accessory exhaust - Borla is an exhaust manufacturer that supplies complete systems, as well as components, mainly to the aftermarket community. They</p>

produce a small handful of OEM exhaust systems for other manufacturers as well. Borla DOES manufacture a legitimate, certified GM Accessory exhaust system for the C8 Corvette. It is offered with exhaust tips that come in polished stainless steel, black Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD) coating, or carbon fiber. As seen in the file photo below, the GM Accy Borla kit can be identified by its slightly golden-colored tint to the heat shield. If it is still available, first inspect the box that the muffler was shipped in. A picture of the GM Accy can also be found below. It will have both the supplier markings on the box as well as the GM hologram sticker with the PN clearly visible. If the original box is not available as proof of installation, ask the customer to provide a past invoice or receipt, with the PN clearly visible. If it has been determined that the vehicle is equipped with a legitimate Borla GM Accessory exhaust system, then contact the company directly at 877-462-6752 for any technical assistance and/or parts ordering assistance on these systems. Please do NOT call GM TAC for assistance with this GM Accessory system.

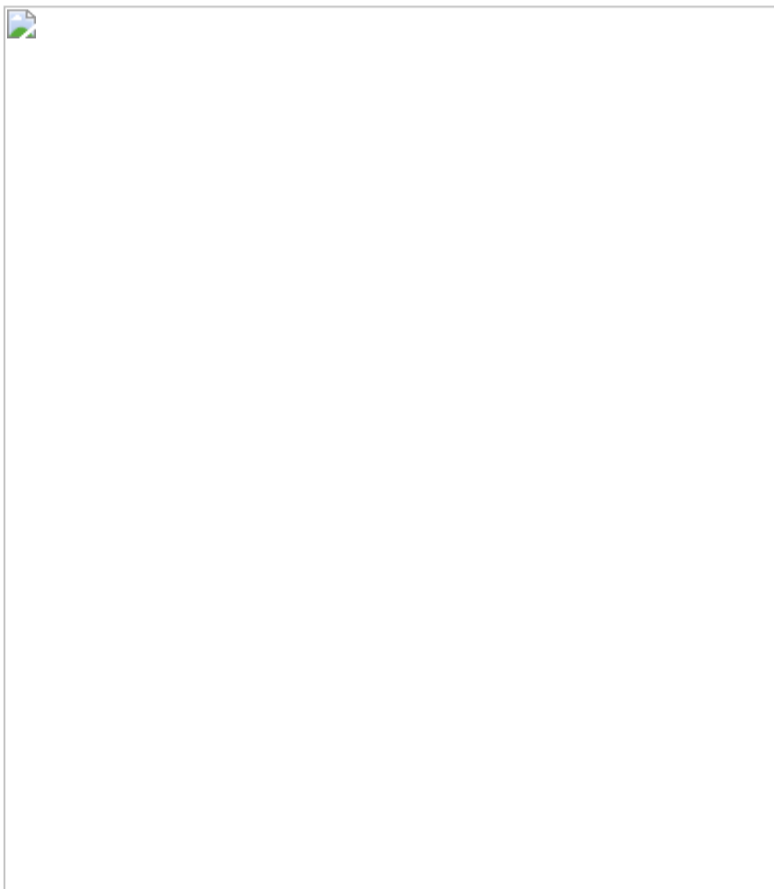


Category 3 - Borla aftermarket exhaust system. In addition to the specific GM Accessory Borla exhaust systems, Borla also manufactures true aftermarket and unsupported exhaust systems for the C8 Corvette. While they offer several different options, the Atak series is their most popular, mainly because it is the loudest system in their lineup. This is the point where most technicians run into an issue. With the exception of the GM Accessory exhaust kits, as mentioned above, **ALL OTHER BORLA** exhaust systems are **UNSUPPORTED** by General Motors and TAC. All other kits are considered "aftermarket" and GM will not pay the parts or labor costs to diagnose and/or repair exhaust related issues on these systems. The customer may be given the option to pay the dealership to have the exhaust returned to stock, they may take it back to the place that originally did the swap, and deal with that particular company in question, or they may choose to install a supported GM Accessory exhaust on the car. Please do not call GM TAC for assistance with these systems. Examples of these aftermarket and unsupported exhaust systems are shown below.

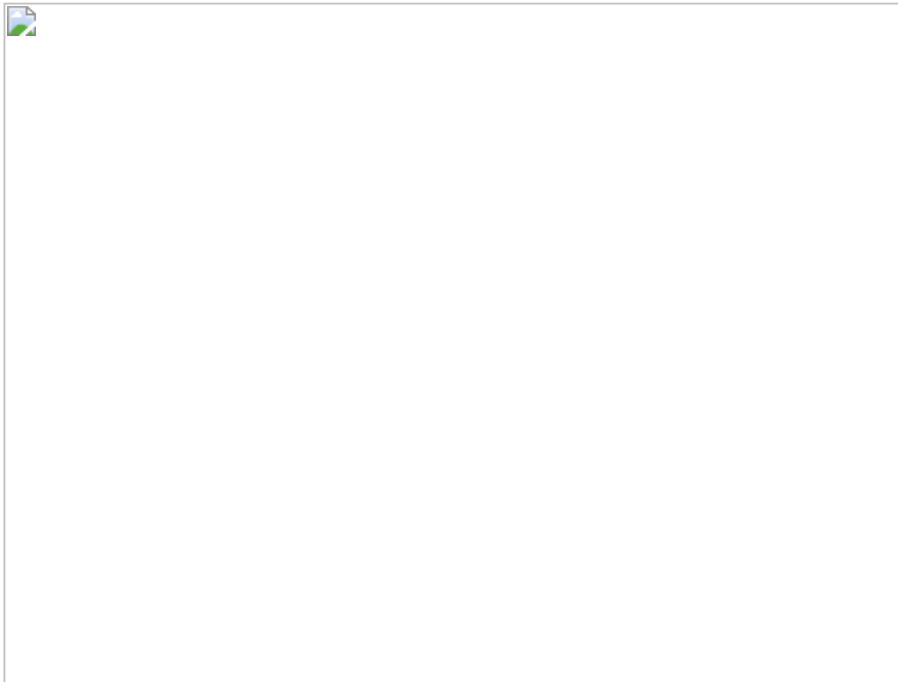
The Borla logo can be seen engraved into the exhaust tips as seen in the photo below.



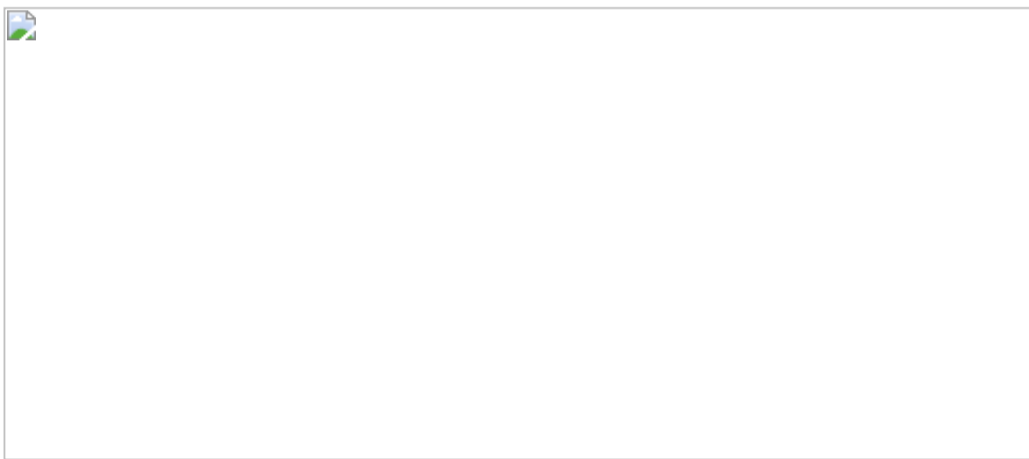
Further investigation into the muffler may reveal a system similar to the photo below. As seen embossed or stamped into the muffler assembly, it can be clearly seen that this is a Borla Atak series exhaust system. This is an unsupported system and is considered truly aftermarket.



Below the stamping, more identification can be seen laser etched into the metal as seen in this next photo. The first string of numbers called out as item 1, is the date of manufacture. The second string of numbers, called out as item 2, is the supplier's PN.



In the photo above, the PN underlined is 140839. A quick double check on the manufacturer's web site confirms the details as seen below.




Category 4 - Any other aftermarket exhaust system. - If an exhaust system from any other aftermarket supplier or company is found to be installed on the vehicle, the customer is responsible for any and all costs related to diagnosis, repair, returning the vehicle to it's stock configuration, or installing a certified GM Accessory exhaust system. Again, the customer may be given the option to pay the dealership to have the exhaust returned to stock, they may take it back to the place that originally did the work, and deal with that company, or they may choose to install a supported GM Accessory exhaust on the car.

Correction:

Regardless of which one of categories 2-4 the dealership technician finds him / herself in, if the customer would like the dealership to continue diagnosis, the next step is either to reinstall the OEM exhaust system back onto the vehicle and to reevaluate the concern to see if an issue is still present or not, or to install a verified GM Accy Borla exhaust on the vehicle. These options will not be something that is covered under warranty, but rather, they are the responsibility of the customer.

Version History

Version	1
Modified	10/22/2024 - Created on.

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