

Product Safety Recall

N212346640 Rear Suspension Toe Link May Break



Release Date: March 2022

Revision: 03

Revision Description: This bulletin is being revised to update the Service Procedure. Please discard all previous copies of N212346640.

Attention: It is a violation of Federal law for a dealer to deliver a new motor vehicle or any new or used item of motor vehicle equipment (including a tire) covered by this notification under a sale or lease until the defect or noncompliance is remedied.

On December 22, 2021, General Motors sent GlobalConnect message GCUS-3-2390 (USA) and GCCA-5-2176 (Canada) regarding upcoming Safety Recall N212346640. At that time a VIN list of affected vehicles was not available. Involved vehicles are now marked “Open” on the Investigate Vehicle History screen in the GM Global Warranty Management system.

All involved vehicles that are in dealer inventory must be held and not delivered to customers, dealer traded, or used for demonstration purposes until the repair contained in this bulletin has been performed on the vehicle.

Make	Model	Model Year		RPO	Description
		From	To		
Buick	LaCrosse	2010	2013		
Buick	Regal	2012	2013		
Chevrolet	Malibu	2013	2013		

Involved vehicles are marked “open” on the Investigate Vehicle History screen in GM Global Warranty Management system. This site should always be checked to confirm vehicle involvement prior to beginning any required inspections and/or repairs.

Condition	General Motors has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2010 – 2013 model year Buick LaCrosse, 2012 – 2013 model year Buick Regal, and 2013 model year Chevrolet Malibu vehicles that were ever registered in Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, or Wisconsin (collectively, “Corrosion States”), Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador (collectively, “Corrosion Region”). These vehicles may have rear toe links that received improper electrocoating (e-coat) corrosion protection, which could cause the link to be more susceptible to long-term corrosion. Corrosion may eventually cause the toe link to thin and ultimately to fracture. A rear toe link fracture may reduce the ability to control the vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash.
Correction	Dealers will replace rear suspension toe links and adjuster fasteners.

Parts

Quantity	Part Name	Part No.
1	Rear Adjust Link Kit (LaCrosse)	85532059
1	Rear Adjust Link Kit (Regal, Malibu)	85532060

Parts required to complete this recall are to be obtained from General Motors Customer Care and Aftersales (GMCC&A). Please refer to your “involved vehicles listing” before ordering parts. Order parts on a CSO = Customer Special Order only. DRO’s may be cancelled. All orders will be reviewed prior to being filled. Parts may have quantity limiters in effect.

Important: Due to limited initial parts availability, dealers are encouraged not to order these parts for use as shelf stock.

Reminder: Parts may be removed from Retail Inventory Management (RIM). Dealers should review the affected parts to confirm RIM managed status. Parts may have quantity limiters in effect.

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Warranty Information

Labor Operation	Description	Labor Time	Trans. Type	Net Item
9106134	Rear Adjust Link Replacement (both sides, includes rear toe alignment time)	1.4	ZFAT	*
9106135	Customer Reimbursement Approved - For USA and Canada dealers only	N/A	ZFAT	**
9106136	Customer Reimbursement Denied – For USA dealers only	N/A	ZFAT	***

Note: To avoid having to “H” route the customer reimbursement for approval, it must be submitted prior to the repair transaction.

*If additional time is necessary to deal with rusted components during the repair, please H-route the claim for additional time to your local GM representative.

**For USA and Canada: Submit the dollar amount reimbursed to the customer in Net/Reimbursement. Submit \$20.00 (\$25.00 CAN) administrative allowance in Net/Admin Allowance.

***Submit \$10.00 administrative allowance in Net/Admin Allowance.

Service Procedure

1. Replace both rear adjust links. Refer to *Adjust Link Replacement* in SI.
2. Align the rear toe. Refer to *Rear Toe Adjustment* in SI.

Dealer Responsibility – For USA & Export (USA States, Territories, and Possessions)

It is a violation of Federal law for a dealer to deliver a new motor vehicle or any new or used item of motor vehicle equipment (including a tire) covered by this notification under a sale or lease until the defect or noncompliance is remedied.

The US National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act provides that each vehicle that is subject to a recall of this type must be adequately repaired within a reasonable time after the customer has tendered it for repair. A failure to repair within sixty days after tender of a vehicle is prima facie evidence of failure to repair within a reasonable time. If the condition is not adequately repaired within a reasonable time, the customer may be entitled to an identical or reasonably equivalent vehicle at no charge or to a refund of the purchase price less a reasonable allowance for depreciation. To avoid having to provide these burdensome remedies, every effort must be made to promptly schedule an appointment with each customer and to repair their vehicle as soon as possible. In the recall notification letters, customers are told how to contact the US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration if the recall is not completed within a reasonable time.

Dealer Responsibility – All

All new, used, GM Certified Used, courtesy transportation vehicles, dealer shuttle vehicles, etc. in dealers' possession and subject to this recall must be held and inspected/repaired per the service procedure of this bulletin before customers take possession of these vehicles. Involved vehicles must be held and not delivered to customers, dealer-traded, released to auction, used for demonstration, or any other purpose.

All GM Certified Used vehicles currently in the dealers' inventory within the Certified Pre-Owned Inventory System (CPOIS) will be de-certified and must be held and remedied per the service procedure in this bulletin. Upon submitting an accepted/paid warranty transaction in the Global Warranty Management (GWM) system, the vehicle can be re-certified for sale within the CPOIS system, or once again be used in the CTP program.

Dealers are to service all vehicles subject to this recall at no charge to customers, regardless of mileage, age of vehicle, or ownership, from this time forward.

Customers who have recently purchased vehicles sold from your vehicle inventory, and for which there is no customer information indicated on the dealer listing, are to be contacted by the dealer. Arrangements are to be made to make the required correction according to the instructions contained in this bulletin. A copy of the customer letter is provided in this bulletin for your use in contacting customers. Recall follow-up cards should not be used for this purpose, since the customer may not as yet have received the notification letter.

In summary, whenever a vehicle subject to this field action enters your vehicle inventory you must take the steps necessary to ensure the program correction has been made before selling the vehicle. In addition, for vehicles entering your facility for service, you are required to ensure the customer is aware of the open field action and make every reasonable effort to implement the program correction as set forth in this bulletin prior to releasing the vehicle.

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Dealer Reports

For dealers with involved vehicles, a listing has been prepared and will be available through GM GlobalConnect Maxis Field Action Reports or sent directly to export dealers. The Inventory tab of the dealer reports will contain VINs that apply to this recall. This information is intended to assist dealers with the **PROMPT COMPLETION** of these vehicles. The Customer In-Service tab will contain customer names and addresses from Motor Vehicle Registration Records. The use of such motor vehicle registration data for any purpose other than follow-up necessary to complete this recall may be a violation of law in several states.

Courtesy Transportation – For USA & Canada

Courtesy transportation is available for customers whose vehicles are involved in a product program and still within the warranty coverage period. See General Motors Service Policies and Procedures Manual for courtesy transportation program details.

Customer Notification

USA & Canada - General Motors will notify customers of this recall on their vehicle (see copy of customer letter included with this bulletin).

Customer Reimbursement

Customer requests for reimbursement of previously paid repairs to correct the condition described in the bulletin can be submitted at anytime to the dealer. See General Motors Service Policies and Procedures Manual, Product Field Action Customer Reimbursement Procedure (USA & Canada) or local Policies and Procedures, for details.

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 tools, equipment, 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 dealer for information on whether your vehicle may benefit from the information.



**We Support
Voluntary Technician
Certification**



IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL

January 2022

This notice applies to your vehicle, **VIN:** _____

Dear General Motors Customer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

General Motors has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2010 – 2013 model year Buick LaCrosse, 2012 – 2013 model year Buick Regal, and 2013 model year Chevrolet Malibu vehicles that were ever registered in Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, or Wisconsin (collectively, "Corrosion States"). As a result, GM is conducting a safety recall. We apologize for this inconvenience. However, we are concerned about your safety and continued satisfaction with our products.

IMPORTANT

- Your vehicle is involved in GM safety recall N212346640.
- Schedule an appointment with your GM dealer.
- This service will be performed for you at **no charge**.

Why is your vehicle being recalled?

These vehicles may have rear toe links that received improper electrocoating (e-coat) corrosion protection, which could cause the e-coat to become brittle and break away when contacted by road debris. Over time, the e-coat may chip away, exposing the metal toe link and making it more susceptible to corrosion. Corrosion may eventually cause the toe link to thin and ultimately to fracture. A rear toe link fracture may reduce the ability to control the vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash.

What will we do?

Your GM dealer will replace rear suspension toe links and adjuster fasteners. This service will be performed for you at **no charge**. Because of service scheduling requirements, it is likely that your dealer will need your vehicle longer than the actual service correction time of approximately two hours.

What should you do?

You should contact your GM dealer to arrange a service appointment as soon as possible.

Did you already pay for this repair?

Even though you may have previously had repairs for this condition, you will still need to take your vehicle to your dealer for additional repairs. If you have already paid for repairs for the recall condition, please complete the enclosed reimbursement form and present it to your dealer with all required documents. Working with your dealer will expedite your request, however, if this is not convenient, you may mail the completed reimbursement form and all required documents to Reimbursement Department, PO Box 33170, Detroit, MI 48232-5170.

Do you have questions?

If you have questions or concerns that your dealer is unable to resolve, please contact the appropriate Customer Assistance Center at the number listed below.

Division	Number	Text Telephones (TTY)
Buick	1-866-608-8080	1-800-832-8425
Chevrolet	1-800-630-2438	1-800-833-2438
Puerto Rico – English	1-800-496-9992	
Puerto Rico – Español	1-800-496-9993	
Virgin Islands	1-800-496-9994	

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If after contacting your dealer and the Customer Assistance Center, you are still not satisfied we have done our best to remedy this condition without charge and within a reasonable time, you may wish to write the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590, or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1.888.327.4236 (TTY 1.800.424.9153), or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Campaign ID Number for this recall is 21V00F.

Federal regulation requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

Regina A. Carto
Vice President
Global Product Safety and Systems

Enclosure
GM Recall: N212346640