

Bulletin No.: PIC5854

Date: Apr-2013

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

Subject: Normal Characteristic - HD Radio Signal Cuts In And Out, Skips, Or Drops Out

Models: 2013 Buick Enclave

2013 Cadillac ATS, SRX, XTS

2013 Chevrolet Traverse

2013 GMC Acadia

2014 Chevrolet Impala

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

Condition/Concern

Customer may comment that the AM or FM audio volume changes, mutes, echoes, cuts in and out, repeats broadcast content, or skips intermittently. Customer may notice the HD symbol turning on and off on the radio display when this occurs.

Note: This does NOT apply to XM, CD, DVD, Bluetooth streaming audio, or connected applications such as Pandora or Stitcher.

Recommendation/Instructions

Advise this is normal operation when listening to a weak AM or FM HD station.

Each station can have multiple HD stations. For example, if FM 93.7 offers an HD signal, HD1 plays the same audio as the non-HD station and is shown as 93.7 HD on the radio display. A station may have additional HD channels HD2-8, which may broadcast different audio/songs. These channel presets would be indicated as 93.7-2 through 93.7-8, if available.

If the HD Radio signal loses reception while listening to channel HD1, the radio will revert back to the main non-HD (analog) Radio channel. The audio quality of the analog signal is not as crisp or clear as the HD signal. A weak HD signal may result in the radio switching back and forth between digital and analog signals If the HD Radio signal loses reception while listening to channels HD2 to HD8, the radio does not revert to the non-HD version like it does when the HD signal drops out when listening to HD1. Instead, the radio mutes until the signal can be recovered or until the channel is changed. You may also hear skips or echoes if the HD reception is weak. Digital HD broadcasting signals are weaker than the normal signal strength of the analog station, so HD listening may not deliver the same range as non-HD station listening.

If signal reception is causing repeated cycling of the audio between analog and HD, HD may be turned off in the radio settings to avoid this cycling.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TURNING HD OFF:

- ⇒ Turning HD off for ATS, Impala, SRX and XTS: Select the following icons Home / Audio / Menu / HD Switching Off. If the vehicle has a preset saved as an HD station the HD will automatically turn on when that preset is pressed. Recommend resaving presets as Non-HD stations for the above.
- ⇒ Turning HD off for Acadia, Enclave, or Traverse: Select the following icons Home / Now Playing / Menu / HD Disable. If HD is turned off selecting HD presets will not turn HD back on. If the customer turned HD off and selects a preset saved as HD2 thru HD8, a message will appear advising to turn HD on.

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.

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 safety. 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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