

GM recalls 4M vehicles for air bag defect linked to 1 death

September 9 2016, by Tom Krisher And Dee-Ann Durbin



This Friday, May 16, 2014, file photo, shows the General Motors logo at the company's world headquarters in Detroit. On Friday, Sept. 9, 2016, General Motors Co. said it is recalling about 4 million vehicles worldwide to fix an air bag software defect that has been linked to one death. The company said that in rare cases, the car's computers can go into test mode and the front air bags won't inflate in a crash. The seat belts also may not function. (AP Photo/Paul Sancya, File)

General Motors recalled more than 4 million vehicles, most of them in

the U.S., to fix an air bag software defect that has been linked to one death.

The vehicles involved in the recall are all from the 2014-2017 model years and include models from Buick, Chevrolet, GMC and Cadillac.

The company is recalling 4.28 million vehicles worldwide, with 3.6 million being in the U.S.

The company said Friday that in rare cases, the car's sensing and diagnostic module—a tiny computer that senses what the vehicle is doing and controls air bag deployment—can go into test mode. If that happens, the front air bags won't inflate in a crash and the seat belts may not work either.

GM says the defect is linked to at least one death and three injuries.

The company learned of the problem in May when a 2014 Chevrolet Silverado crashed and its air bags didn't deploy. GM notified Delphi Corp., the supplier that made the module. The two companies tested the modules and decided to recall the vehicles last week. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced the recall Friday.

General Motors Co. will notify customers and update the software for free. GM says dealers already have access to the software update so they should be able to repair the vehicles quickly.

The recall involves 3.6 million vehicles. They are:

— 2014-2016 Buick LaCrosse, Chevrolet SS, Chevrolet Spark EV

— 2014-2017 Buick Encore, GMC Sierra 1500, Chevrolet Corvette, Chevrolet Trax, Chevrolet Caprice police car and Chevrolet Silverado

1500

— 2015-2017 Chevrolet Tahoe, Chevrolet Suburban, Chevrolet Silverado HD, GMC Yukon, GMC Yukon XL, GMC Sierra HD, Cadillac Escalade and Cadillac Escalade ESV.

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