Info - High Intensity Discharge (HID) Headlamps - Disposal Instructions #05-08-42-003 - (Mar 11, 2005)

High Intensity Discharge (HID) Headlamps -- Disposal Instructions

1997-2001 Cadillac Catera

2001-2004 Cadillac Seville

2002-2005 Cadillac Escalade Models

2003-2005 Cadillac CTS

2004-2005 Cadillac SRX, XLR

2005 Cadillac STS

1999-2001 GMC Envoy

1998-2001 Oldsmobile Bravada

HID Headlamps included in Connecticut laws for products containing mercury.

Connecticut has enacted laws and regulations requiring the proper handling of elemental mercury (hg) containing consumer products sold in the state on or after July 1, 2004. Included in these laws and regulations are high intensity discharge (HID) headlamps that contain trace amounts of Hg. The purpose of this bulletin is to:

- Identify the GM vehicles equipped with HID headlamps
Service Information

- Provide details of the HID Headlamp Collection Plan requirements

**Recycle Spent HID Bulbs**

Connecticut law requires proper handling of all products containing the element of mercury (Hg). This law includes High Intensity Discharge (HID) headlamps which contain traces (estimated 0.5-1.0 mg) of mercury -- generally less than 1/20th of the amount of mercury in fluorescent lamps.

When HID headlamps are serviced, and the dealer is left with an intact HID bulb or headlamp assembly, the HID bulb must be properly disposed of or recycled. HID headlamp bulbs should not be disposed of in the solid waste stream. The recycling of the HID headlamps should be handled in the same way as fluorescent lamps containing mercury, commonly used in households and business facilities. There is a label on the HID part indicating that mercury (Hg) is contained in the assembly and a picture indicating not to throw it in the trash.

Additionally, the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) encourages dealers to take spent HID lamps from private consumers and recycle them. It is expected that the number of HID lamps recycled by dealers will be very small given the long life of the parts and sales information regarding their replacement. In 2004, GM Service Parts Operations sold 66 HID headlamp assemblies to GM dealerships in Connecticut. No bulbs were sold in 2004 in Connecticut. (Assemblies are most often sold in cases of collisions where intact HID bulbs are not available for recycling).

Further assistance for proper handling of mercury is available on the Connecticut Department of Environment Protection's (DEP) website (http://dep.state.ct.us/wst/mercury/merclamp.htm) or by calling the DEP Mercury Hotline at 1-877-537-2488 or (860) 424-3297, or on the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers website (http://autoalliance.org/archives/000129.html).

**Train Parts and Service Employees Regarding Disposal Requirements**

All employees who handle or manage HID headlamp waste will be informed of the procedure to properly dispose of these bulbs.

**List the Recycling Information on HID Bulb and Assembly Invoices.**

When HID lamps are sold over the counter, invoices should contain the same wording as the package label and the URL listed above which indicates appropriate disposal of the components is required.

**Willingness of Dealers to Implement HID Proposed Collection Plan**
Dealers in Connecticut are requested to agree to participate in the HID Headlamp Collection Plan, which strongly encourages the take back of any Hg HID bulbs associated with over-the-counter part sales of HID bulbs.

Additionally, Body Shops, which purchase HID assemblies, are being educated by the DEP on their responsibility to properly dispose of these bulbs.

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 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 GM dealer for information on whether your vehicle may benefit from the information.