



September Tech Tip

TECH TIP: Cadillac Front End Creak/Squeak When Braking

Bulletin No.: 06-03-08-008E

MODELS: 2003-2007 Cadillac CTS

CONDITION:

Some customers may comment on a squeak or creak type noise coming from the front of the vehicle. This noise typically occurs while braking or during slow turns, like parking lot maneuvers.

CAUSE:

The cause of this noise may be due to a worn rear bushing on the front lower control arm rubbing against its outer rate washer.

DIAGNOSTIC TIP:

This noise can be isolated, as lubing or wetting the rear bushing will temporarily eliminate the noise. While this noise can be irritating, it poses no durability or functional concern.

CORRECTION:

Install a plastic insulating spacer between the rear control arm bushing and the rate washer using the procedure listed below. This plastic insulating spacer is part of the kit. Spacers should only be used on old bushings that exhibit the metal-to-metal wear condition as in Step 3. Do not use spacers on new parts or on lower mileage vehicles that do not have this wear condition or a squeak will result due to insufficient clearance.

1. Remove the front lower control arm. Refer to the Lower Control Arm Replacement procedure in SI.
2. Remove the rear bushing rate washer using a punch. Discard the washer.
3. Inspect the bushing for tears. If there is any evidence of a torn bushing, do not proceed with this bulletin. Replacement of the lower control arm is required. Scuff wear to the bushing, as shown right, is the condition this bulletin addresses.
4. Install the new insulating spacer onto the rear bushing.
5. Using an arbor press, install the new rate washer to the rear bushing.
6. Reinstall the front lower control arm.
7. Repeat steps 1 through 6 for the other side of the vehicle.
8. Align the front end.



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