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## INSTRUCTION FOR GM MENU SELECTION

### 1. Background

- GM is the world's biggest car manufacturer and their cars are sold under dozens of brand name, and each of them includes various models.
- It is well known that the cars sold with the different model name tags under different brand names strategically share the platforms and the control systems with others.  
The Vehicle Identification Number(VIN) includes clear information about the similarity or compatibility between the different models and brands.  
Distinguishing the cars by the model names is for the customers, and identifying the cars by the system genealogy is for the technician.
- Without having to scrolling the menu of a few steps up and down for selection, you can simply make the complete and precise selection just by checking the specific positions of the VIN and selecting the corresponding alphabet or number in the menu.
- Note that Tech2, the original equipment for GM, also has the same menu structure.

### 2. The VIN

- What is VIN  
In the early 1980's the U.S. Dept. of Transport required that all road vehicles must contain a 17 character VIN. This established the fixed VIN system for major vehicle manufacturers not to mention GM as it is known today.  
Thus, establishing a unique "DNA" style ID number for each unique vehicle which rolled off the assembly line.
- Where to find the VIN  
The location of the Vehicle Identification Number may vary on the year/make/model of vehicle, but some common area's do exist.  
Most common area's of VIN:
  - Left instrumentation/dash plate by window (windshield)
  - Drivers door or post
  - Firewall



### 3. How to decode VIN

- VIN consists of 17 characters, and each of them identifies the characteristics of the vehicle.
- **1<sup>st</sup> character**  
Identifies the country in which the vehicle was manufactured.  
For example: U.S.A.(1or4), Canada(2), Mexico(3), Japan(J), Korea(K), England(S), Germany(W), Italy(Z), etc.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> character**  
Identifies the manufacturer. For example; Audi(A), BMW(B), Buick(4), Cadillac(6), Chevrolet(1), Chrysler(C), Dodge(B), Ford(F), GM Canada(7), General Motors(G), Honda(H), Jaguar(A), Lincoln(L), Mercedes Benz(D), Mercury(M), Nissan(N), Oldsmobile(3), Pontiac(2or5), Plymouth(P), Saturn(8), Toyota(T), VW(V), Volvo(V).
- **3<sup>rd</sup> character** - Identifies vehicle type or manufacturing division.
- **4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> characters**  
Identifies vehicle features such as body style, engine type, model, series, etc.
  - Passenger Car**
    - 4<sup>th</sup>** position identifies **the Product Line**
    - 8<sup>th</sup>** position identifies **the Engine Type**
  - Light Duty truck, MPV, Incomplete, Medium Duty Truck**
    - 5<sup>th</sup>** position identifies **the Product Line**
    - 8<sup>th</sup>** position identifies **the Engine Type**
- **9<sup>th</sup> character**  
Identifies VIN accuracy as check digit.
- **10<sup>th</sup> character**  
**Identifies the model year.**  
For example: 1993(P), 1994(R), 1995(S), 1996(T), 1997(V), 1998(W), 1999(X), 2000(Y), 2001(1), 2002(2), 2003(3), 2004(4), 2005(5)
- **11<sup>th</sup> character** - Identifies the assembly plant for the vehicle.
- **12<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> characters** - Identifies the sequence of the vehicle for production as it rolled of the manufacturers assembly line.



#### 4. Menu Selection Example 1: A passenger car with the VIN 1G1YY12SX35134191

- Check the characters on the 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> position. Each character identifies:
  - 10<sup>th</sup> position : (3) Manufactured Year (2003)
  - 8<sup>th</sup> position: (S) Engine Type - Used for the POWERTRAIN system diagnosis
  - 4<sup>th</sup> position: (Y) Product Line (group) - Used for the BODY and CHASSIS systems diagnosis

- Menu selections for **POWERTRAIN** system diagnosis  
Select the model year – referring to the **10<sup>th</sup> character**

VEHICLE SELECTION	
1.	(3) 2003 MY
2.	(2) 2002 MY
3.	(1) 2001 MY
4.	(Y) 2000 MY
5.	(X) 1999 MY
6.	(W) 1998 MY
7.	(V) 1997 MY
8.	(T) 1996 MY
9.	(S) 1995 MY

[HELP] VEHICLE SELECTION GUIDE 1/ 9

Select the POWERTRAIN system

VEHICLE SELECTION	
1.	POWERTRAIN
2.	BODY
3.	CHASSIS

[HELP] VEHICLE SELECTION GUIDE 1/ 3

Select the passenger car as it is.

VEHICLE SELECTION	
1.	PASSENGER CAR
2.	LD TRK,MPV, INCOMPLETE
3.	MEDIUM DUTY TRUCK
4.	SATURN

[HELP] VEHICLE SELECTION GUIDE 1/ 4

Select (S) 5.7L V8 LS6, referring to the **4<sup>th</sup> character**.

VEHICLE SELECTION	
2.	(F) 2.2L L4 L42/L61
3.	(M) 2.6L V6 LY9
4.	(J) 3.1L V6 L68
5.	(N) 3.2L V6 LA3
6.	(E) 3.4L V6 LA1
7.	(1) 3.8L V6 L67
8.	(K) 3.8L V6 L36
9.	(C) 4.0L V8 L47
10.	(9) 4.6L V8 L37
11.	(Y) 4.6L V8 LD8
12.	(G) 5.7L V8 LS1
13.	(S) 5.7L V8 LS6

[HELP] VEHICLE SELECTION GUIDE 13/ 13

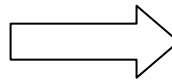


- Menu selections for **BODY** system diagnosis

Repeat the first two selections for model year and vehicle type.

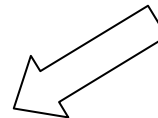
VEHICLE SELECTION	
1.	(3) 2003 MY
2.	(2) 2002 MY
3.	(1) 2001 MY
4.	(Y) 2000 MY
5.	(X) 1999 MY
6.	(W) 1998 MY
7.	(U) 1997 MY
8.	(T) 1996 MY
9.	(S) 1995 MY

[HELP] VEHICLE SELECTION GUIDE 1/ 9



VEHICLE SELECTION	
1.	PASSENGER CAR
2.	LD TRK.MPU, INCOMPLETE
3.	MEDIUM DUTY TRUCK
4.	SATURN

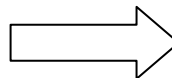
[HELP] VEHICLE SELECTION GUIDE 1/ 4



Select BODY for the system diagnosis

VEHICLE SELECTION	
1.	POWERTRAIN
2.	<b>BODY</b>
3.	CHASSIS

[HELP] VEHICLE SELECTION GUIDE 2/ 3



Select [Y] referring to the 8<sup>th</sup> character of the VIN.

VEHICLE SELECTION	
1.	C
2.	D
3.	G
4.	H
5.	J
6.	K
7.	N
8.	W
9.	<b>Y</b>

[HELP] VEHICLE SELECTION GUIDE 9/ 9



## 5. Menu Selection Example 2:

### A Light Duty Truck with the VIN 1GNDS13S032355104

- Check the characters on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> position  
Each character identifies:
  - 10<sup>th</sup> position : (3) Manufactured Year (2003)
  - 8<sup>th</sup> position: (S) Engine Type - Used for the POWERTRAIN system diagnosis
  - 5<sup>th</sup> position: (S) Product Line (group) - Used for the BODY and CHASSIS systems diagnosis
- Just select the menu referring to the VIN characters on the specific positions.
- IMPORTANT  
To identify the Product Line(group) that is used for BODY and CHASSIS system test, refer to the 4<sup>th</sup> character for the passenger cars, and 5<sup>th</sup> character for the other types such as trucks and MPVs.

## 6. On-screen Guidance

You do not have to memorize all these rules.

The instruction is provided on the screen of the scan tool when you press the [HELP] key.

