

Truck market more competitive

(NC)—In case you hadn't noticed, the truck market in North America has been the largest growth segment during the past four or five years, surpassing marginal growth in passenger car segments. Nearly one of every three vehicles sold in Canada and the U.S. is a truck, which includes utility vans, minivans, light pickup trucks and compact sporty trucks.

Car manufacturers have responded to the growing interest in trucks by bringing new features to those popular vehicles. For example, General Motors' Chevrolet Division compact S-10 Blazer added rear-wheel anti-lock brakes and greater availability of the full-size engine power with the 4.3-litre Vortec V6. This engine is a descendant of Chevy's proven "350" V8 and features 160 horsepower.

The S-10 Blazer, North America's best-selling sport utility vehicle, is featured in both two-wheel drive or four-wheel (4x4) drive with Chevrolet's patented Insta-Trac system for conven-



Auto Facts

ient "shift-on-the-fly" operation.

In addition to the new rear wheel anti-lock braking system offered on 1989 models, power front disc/rear drum brakes and power steering are standard on all S-10 Blazer models. The new rear wheel anti-lock braking system controls the rear brake line pressure through a control valve located between the master cylinder and the rear brakes. By modulating rear brake pressure, the system improves the vehicle's directional stability by preventing rear-wheel skid under varying road and rear loading factors, thus greatly improving the safety of this vehicle under all kinds of road and weather conditions.

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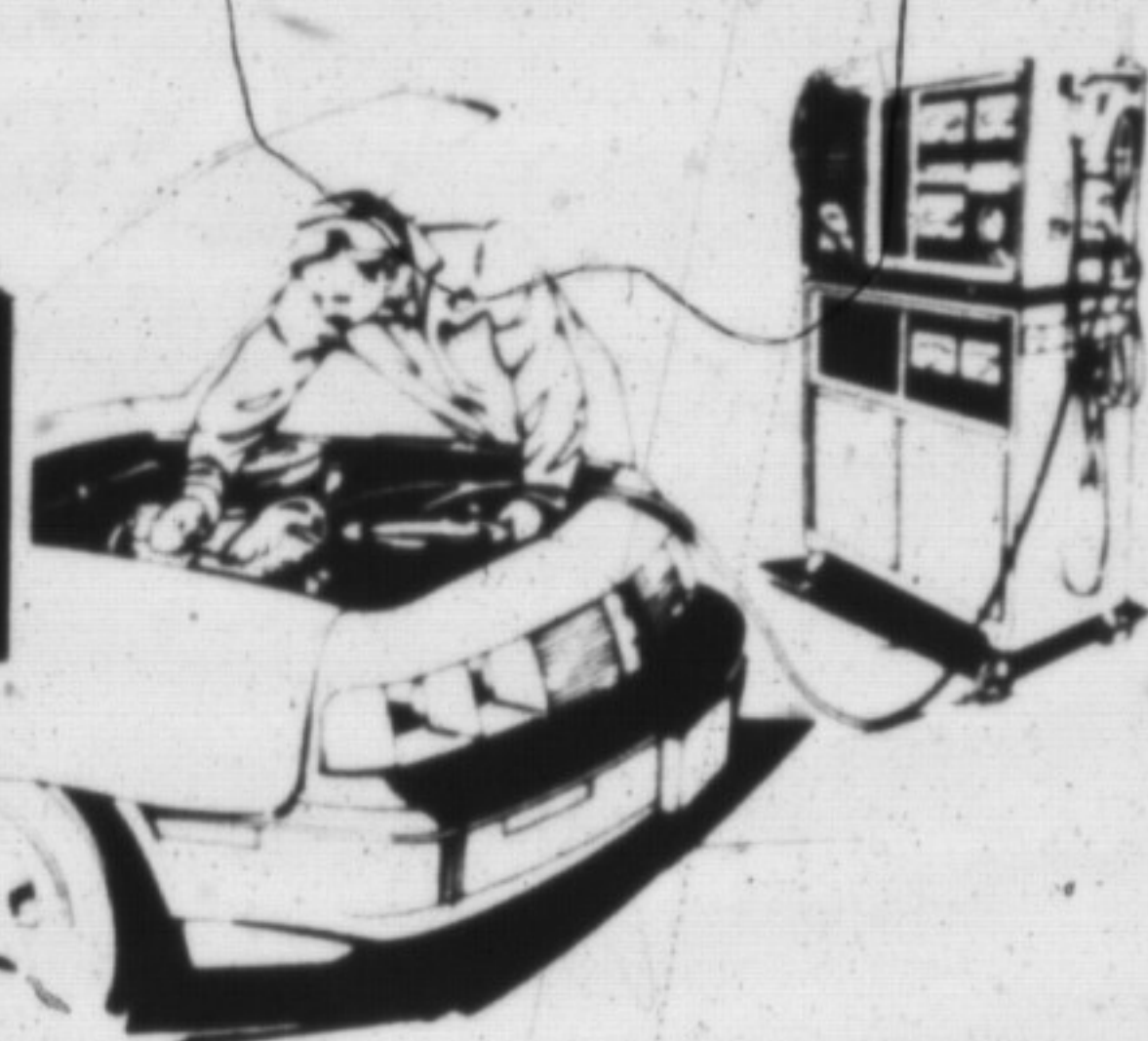
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21 SERVICE CHECKS

- Ignition system pre-analysis
- Test battery and clean connections
- Inspect spark plugs
- Test electronic cylinder power balance
- Test spark plug cables
- Inspect rotor and distributor cap
- Inspect all air and gas filters
- Check starter
- Check voltage regulator and alternator
- Inspect all belts and hoses
- Pressure-test the cooling system
- Test the radiator antifreeze
- Check all under-the-hood fluid levels
- Check PCV valve
- Check heat-riser valve
- Check EGR valve
- Inspect choke
- Check timing & adjust
- Check vacuum advance
- Check operation of block heater
- Road-test vehicle

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WE'LL CHECK:

UNDER HOOD

- Oil level
- Power steering level
- Automatic trans. level
- Brake fluid level
- Horn mounting loose
- Power steering belt
- Alternator belt
- Water pump belt
- Upper hose
- Lower hose
- heater hose
- Antifreeze test
- Cooling pressure test
- Battery test
- Exhaust manifolds
- Accelerator linkage
- Fuel system insecure/leads
- Brake booster hoses/connectors
- Steering box/column mountings
- Steering shaft couplings/splines
- Hood latch/safety catch

UNDER BODY

- Motor mounts
- Tie rods/drag link

- Ball joints/king pins
- Wheel bearing play front
- Steering linkage
- Improper steering modified
- Steering full travel
- Suspension control arms
- Front springs
- Front brake flex lines
- Front shock absorber mountings
- Radius rods/stabilizers
- McPherson struts
- Frame/chassis structure
- Holes in underbody/trunk floor
- Driveshaft - U joints
- Exhaust system
- Steel brake lines - front/rear
- Rear brake flex lines
- Fuel system mounting leaks/tank
- Parking brake pull test - L/R
- Rear shock absorber mountings
- Rear springs
- Road wheels - bent - crack - valve stems
- LF tire
- RF tire

- LR tire
- RR tire
- Spare tire
- Alignment (tire wear patterns)
- Brake mechanical parts
- Brake drums - size
- Brake rotors - size
- Front grease seals
- Brake material
- Brake wheel cylinders & calipers
- Brake automatic adjusters
- Rear axle seals

EXTERIOR

- Body condition general
- Headlights high/low
- Front signal lights
- Front parking lights/lenses
- Front bumper missing/loose
- Door latch operation F/R
- Brake lights/rear signal lights
- Taillights/lenses
- License plate light/lenses
- Rear parking lights/lenses
- Fuel filler cap
- Rear bumper missing/loose
- Trailer hitch
- Headlight aim

INTERIOR/ROAD TEST

- Turn signal indicator light
- High beam indicator light
- Windshield wiper & washer operation
- Defrost air delivery & heat
- Horn operation
- Interior mirror
- driver sun visor
- Window operates front
- Exterior mirror
- Seats - insecure maintain position
- Seat belts - upper/lower
- Steering column looseness
- Steering wheel play
- Brake pedal pressure test
- Brake failure warning light
- Seat belts rear seat
- Condition of glass
- Road test vehicle seized cyl
- Road test vehicle brake pull
- Brake pedal bounce speedo working
- Parking brake test
- Neutral starting switch
- Brake booster test
- Brake booster reserve



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