

Front Hinge Pillar Body Sectioning

Removal Procedure

Warning: Refer to [Collision Sectioning Warning](#) in the Preface section.

Warning: Refer to [Approved Equipment for Collision Repair Warning](#) in the Preface section.

Warning: Refer to [Glass and Sheet Metal Handling Warning](#) in the Preface section.

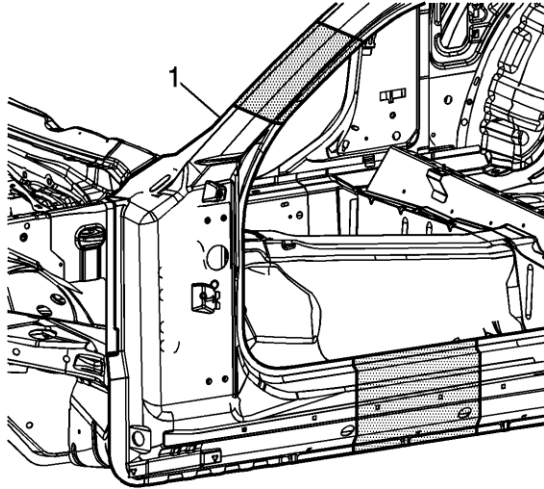
Note: The front body hinge pillar can be replaced at factory seams, but requires the removal of the rocker panel and roof. The sectioning procedures have been developed as a more cost effective alternative to complete replacement. The specific area to be sectioned is determined by the extent of the damage to the vehicle.

1. Disable the SIR system. Refer to [SIR Disabling and Enabling](#).
2. Disconnect the negative battery cable. Refer to [Battery Negative Cable Disconnection and Connection](#).
3. Remove all related panels and components.
4. Repair as much of the damage as possible to factory specifications.

Caution: Refer to [Foam Sound Deadeners Warning](#) in the Preface section.

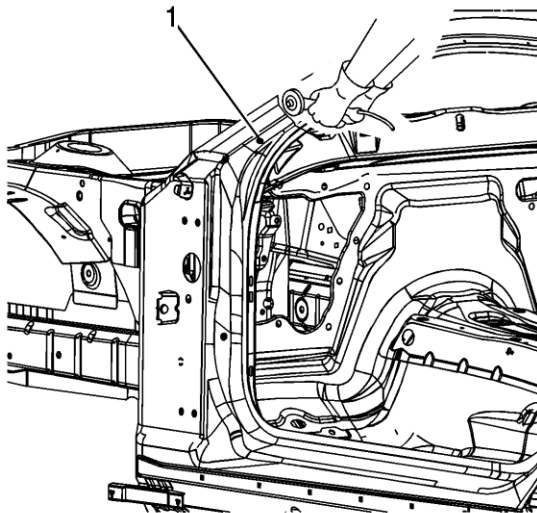
5. Note the location and remove the sealers and anti-corrosion materials from the repair area, as necessary. Refer to [Anti-Corrosion Treatment and Repair](#).

6. Perform additional sectioning procedures as necessary.



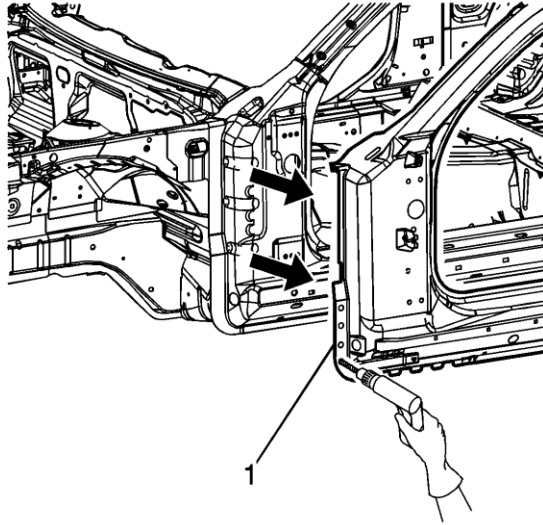
Note: Sectioning can be done in the straight areas of the windshield pillar and rocker panel.

7. Locate the area on the panel where the sectioning is to be performed (1).



Note: Do not damage any inner panels or reinforcements when removing the damaged part.

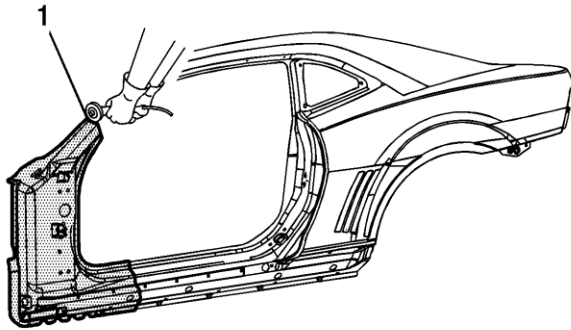
8. Cut the panel where sectioning is to be performed (1).



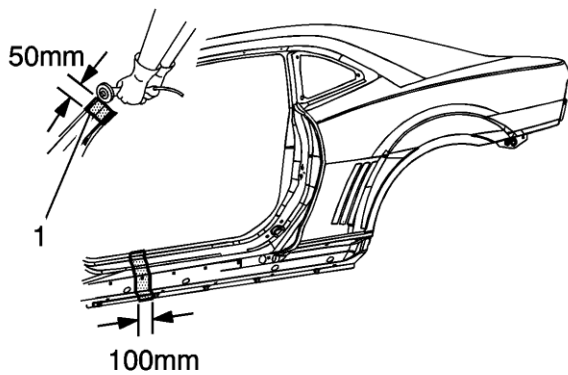
Note: Record the number and location of the original welds for installation of the service part.

9. Locate and drill out all factory welds (1) and remove the damaged hinge pillar section.

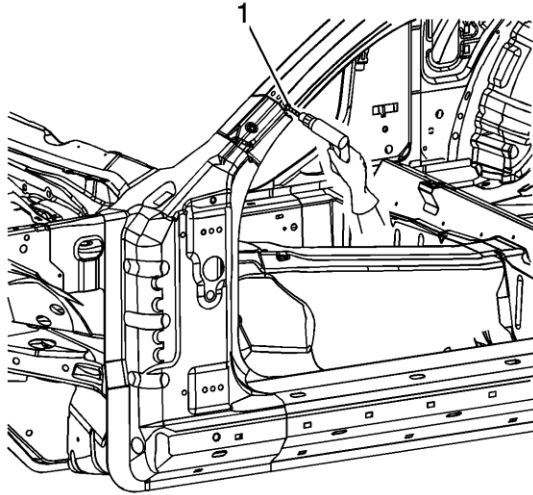
Installation Procedure



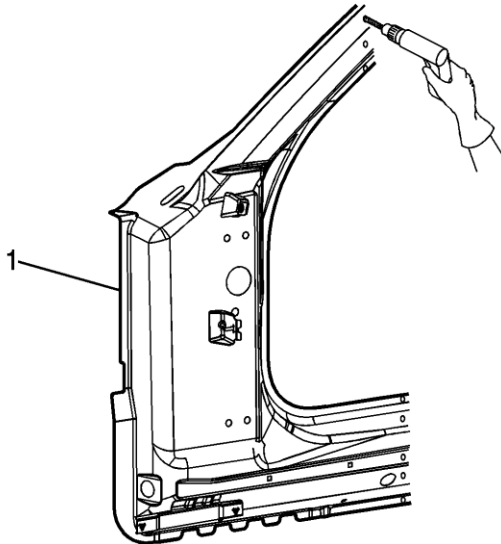
1. Cut the replacement hinge pillar in corresponding locations to fit the original panel (1). The sectioning joint should be trimmed to allow 1.5 times the metal thickness at the sectioning joint.



Create a 50 mm backing plate for the windshield pillar and a 100 mm backing plate for the rocker from the unused portion of the service part (1). Trim the backing plates as necessary to fit behind the sectioning joint where there is no reinforcement.

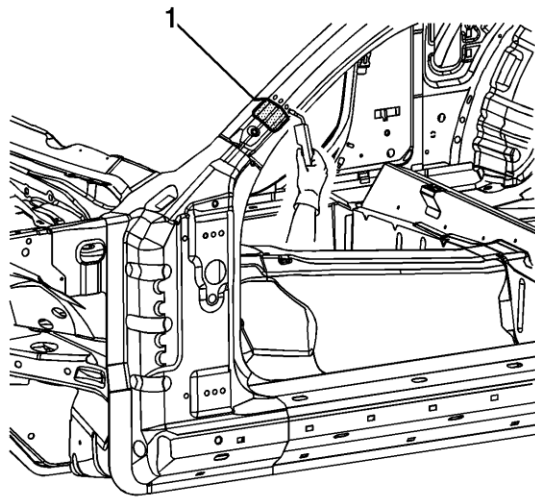


2. Drill 8 mm (5/16 in) plug weld holes along the sectioning cut on the remaining original part (1). Locate these holes centered on the flange and spaced 40 mm (1 1/2 in) apart

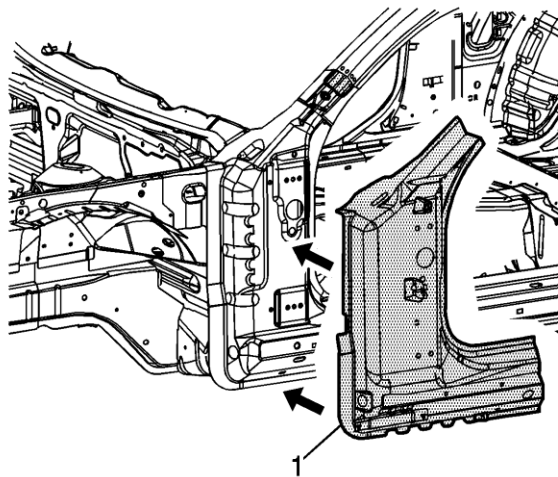


Note: In any area damaged beyond recognition, or Structural weld thru adhesive was present space plug weld holes every 40 mm (1 1/2 in) apart.

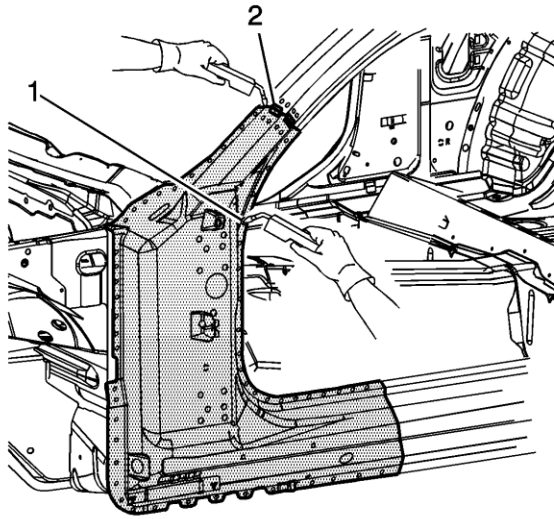
3. Drill 8 mm (5/16 in) plug weld holes in the service part as necessary in the locations noted from the original panel and along the sectioning cut (1).
4. Prepare all attachment surfaces as necessary.
5. Apply GM approved Weld-Thru Coating or equivalent to all mating surfaces. Refer to [Anti-Corrosion Treatment and Repair](#).



Fit the backing plate halfway into the sectioning joints, clamp and plug weld to the vehicle (1).



6. Position the hinge pillar to the vehicle using 3-dimensional measuring equipment (1), clamp in place.



7. Plug weld accordingly (1).

Note: To create a solid weld with minimum heat distortion make 25 mm (1 in) stitch welds along the seam with 25 mm (1 in) gaps between them. Then go back and complete the stitch weld.

8. Stitch weld sectioning joint
9. Clean and prepare all welded surfaces.
10. Apply the sealers and anti-corrosion materials to the repair area, as necessary. Refer to [Anti-Corrosion Treatment and Repair](#).
11. Paint the repair area. Refer to [Basecoat/Clearcoat Paint Systems](#).
12. Install all related panels and components.
13. Connect the negative battery cable. Refer to [Battery Negative Cable Disconnection and Connection](#).
14. Enable the SIR system. Refer to [SIR Disabling and Enabling](#).

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