

#### **Chevrolet Volt**

Collision Awareness Guide



GM Service Technical College provides Collision Repair Guides *free of charge*. Collision Repair Guides can be displayed in a classroom as long as they are represented as GM information and are not modified in any way.



The intent of this guide is to provide the collision repair technician information to properly handle and repair Chevrolet Volt vehicles in the safest manner possible. This guide contains a general description of how the Chevrolet Volt vehicle systems operate, identifies the location of the unique components, fuse blocks, and lifting locations. The guide also describes methods of disabling the high voltage system and identifies cut zone information.



The Chevrolet Volt is a front-wheel drive, four-passenger electric vehicle with extended-range capability. The vehicle is propelled exclusively by electric motors. The Volt uses high voltage energy that is stored in the high voltage battery as its primary power source. However, once the battery capacity is reduced, the gasoline engine drives a generator which produces electricity to power the vehicle.



#### **High Strength Steel**

The Volt has been designed to protect the occupant(s) during a collision. The body structure is nearly 80% high strength steel. The occupants are protected from front, rear and side impacts by a structural cage created by the underlying vehicle structural design. The following parts are formed using ultra high strength steel:

- Door Inner Reinforcement Beams
- Center Pillar Reinforcements
- Windshield Pillar Reinforcements
- Rocker Panel Reinforcements
- · Rear Compartment Lower Rails

Additional crumple zones protect the occupant with front, side and rear rails that are designed to crush in a crash.





#### Vehicle CUT ZONES

Use caution when cutting in these areas:

- Center tunnel area or the area under the rear seats. The 360 volt battery is installed in this area.
- Roof rails near the lift gate hinge. Side curtain air bag inflators and lift gate hold open struts are located in this area
- Front seat back on the outboard area, contains side air bags.
- B pillar near the rocker, contains the seat belt retractor pretensioner. Note: The outboard area of the front seat lower frame houses an additional seat belt pretentioner.

**WARNING:** Do NOT cut into the vehicle until the 12V electrical system has been disabled. Cutting into the vehicle prior to disconnecting and isolating the 12V electrical energy sources may cause air bag deployment resulting in serious injury. Potential damage area to high voltage components. Side curtain air bags and lift gate hold open struts.

Potential damage area to high voltage components.

The Volt battery has 360 volt electrical potential at all times. It is inside the center tunnel and under the rear seat area.



## Welding

When Welding GM recommends disconnecting the 12volt battery and removing any modules If welding within 12 inches or 300mm of them. GM also recommends disabling the high voltage system if welding within 12 inches or 300mm of the high voltage battery





#### **Paint Baking**

General Motors does not recommend baking the Volt vehicle for more then 60 minutes at 160° Fahrenheit or 71 ° Celsius. Damage to the high voltage battery may occur.

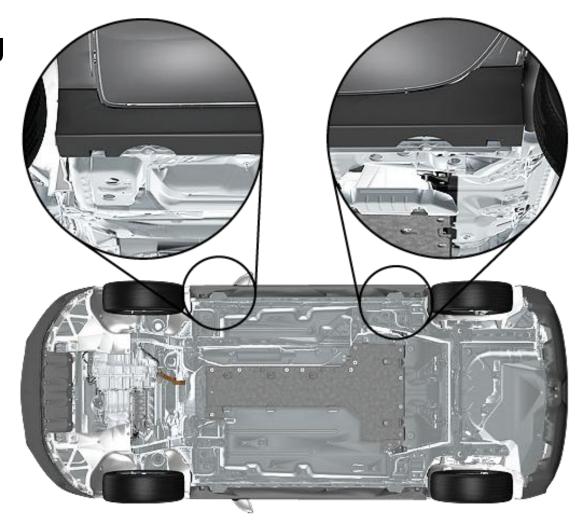




#### Lifting and Jacking

To lift the vehicle on a hoist, use the rocker outer panel weld flanges in each corner of the vehicle.

Note: To avoid damage to the vehicle, the hoist pads MUST not contact the rocker panel moldings or the under body air deflectors.





#### Lifting and Jacking

The Chevrolet Volt may be lifted using a service jack from a single location. To raise the right-front or left-front of the vehicle, place the service jack pad under the rear mounting bracket of the front cradle. To provide sufficient clearance for certain service jacks, it may be necessary to place ramps under the vehicle's front tires. To lift the rear of the vehicle, place the service jack lift pad under the rear spring support.



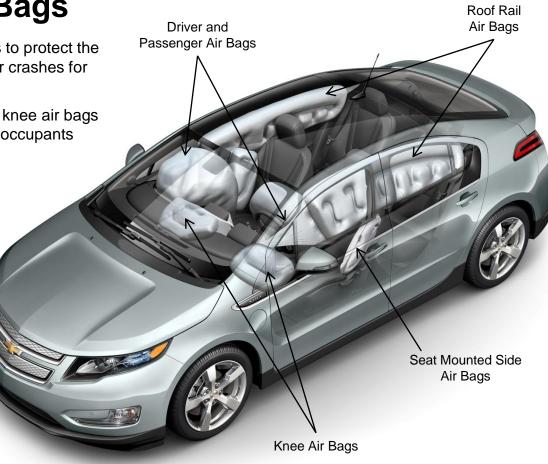


#### **Chevrolet Volt Air Bags**

The Volt is equipped with eight air bags to protect the occupant in front, rear, side and rollover crashes for 360° of protection.

The Volt is one of the few vehicles with knee air bags which helps reduce injuries to the front occupants legs.

There are dual pretensioner seatbelts that work together with the air bag system to protect the occupant in the event of a crash.





#### **Air Bag Deployment**

The contactors within the high voltage battery are commanded open whenever one or more airbags deploy. This interrupts the 360 volt electrical system and discontinues current flow through the high voltage cables.

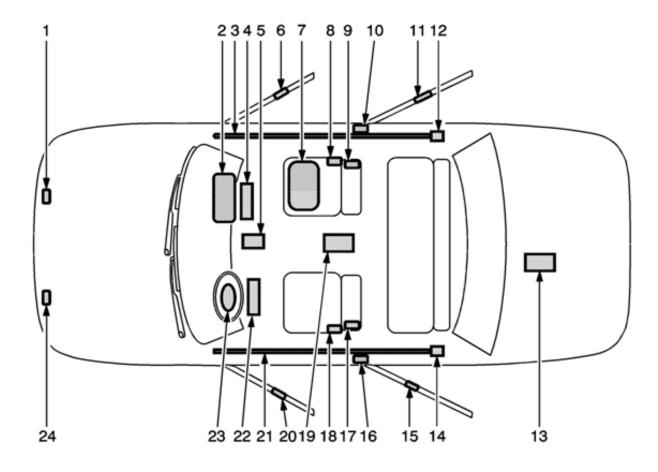
This vehicle is equipped with dual-stage air bags and the appearance of deployed air bags does not ensure all stages of the air bags have deployed.

Therefore, disabling 12 volt power is essential to ensure personal safety even if the airbags in the vehicle appear to have been deployed. After disabling 12 volt power, wait 1 minute to allow any un-deployed air bag reserve energy to dissipate.





#### **SIR Sensor Locations**





#### SIR Sensor Locations (cont.)

- 1. Right Front Impact Sensor--Located under the hood at the front right side of the vehicle
- 2. Passenger Instrument Panel Air Bag--Located at the top right under the instrument panel
- 3. Right Roof Rail Air Bag--Located under the headliner, extending from the passenger front pillar to the passenger rear pillar
- 4. Passenger Knee Air Bag--Located in the instrument panel behind the glove box.
- 5. Inflatable Restraint Sensing and Diagnostic Module (SDM)--Located underneath the center console
- 6. Right Front Side Impact Sensor--Located in the right front door
- 7. Passenger Presence System--Located on the passenger front seat underneath the seat bottom trim
- 8. Passenger Seat Belt Anchor Pretensioner--Located on the outboard side of the passenger seat
- 9. Passenger Seat Side Air Bag--Located on the seat back of the passenger seat
- 10. Passenger Seat Belt Retractor Pretensioner--Located under the passenger side trim near the bottom of the center pillar
- 11. Right Rear Side Impact Sensor--Located in the right rear door
- 12. Inflator Module for Right Roof Rail Air Bag--Located behind the headliner above the C-pillar
- 13.12 V Battery--Located in the trunk
- 14. Inflator Module for Left Roof Rail Air Bag--Located behind the headliner above the C-pillar
- 15. Left Rear Side Impact Sensor--Located in the left rear door
- 16. Driver Seat Belt Retractor Pretensioner--Located under the driver side trim near the bottom of the center pillar
- 17. Driver Seat Side Air Bag--Located on the seat back of the driver seat
- 18. Driver Seat Belt Anchor Pretensioner--Located on the outboard side of the driver seat
- 19.300 V Battery--Located in between the driver and passenger seats, underneath the center console
- 20. Left Front Side Impact Sensor--Located in the left front door
- 21. Left Roof Rail Air Bag--Located under the headliner, extending from the driver front pillar to the driver rear pillar
- 22. Driver Knee Air Bag--Located in the instrument panel below the steering wheel
- 23. Driver Steering Wheel Air Bag--Located on the steering wheel
- 24. Left Front Impact Sensor--Located under the hood at the front left side of the vehicle



## Air Bag Repairs and Inspections Required After a Collision

**Warning:** Proper operation of the Supplemental Inflatable Restraint (SIR) sensing system requires that any repairs to the vehicle structure return the vehicle structure to the original production configuration. Not properly repairing the vehicle structure could cause non-deployment of the air bag(s) in a frontal collision or deployment of the air bag(s) for conditions less severe than intended.

After any collision, inspect the following components as indicated. If you detect any damage, replace the component. If you detect any damage to the mounting points or mounting hardware, repair the component or replace the hardware as needed.

- The steering column--Inspect the steering column for bending, twisting, buckling or any type of damage.
- The instrument panel knee bolsters and mounting points.
- The instrument panel brackets, braces, etc.
- The seat belts--Perform the seat belt operational and functional checks.
- The instrument panel cross car beam.
- The instrument panel mounting points and brackets.
- The seats and seat mounting points.
- The roof and headliner mounting points.



After a frontal collision involving air bag deployment, replace the following components.

- · Passenger instrument panel air bag, if deployed
- Driver steering wheel air bag

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- Inflatable restraint sensing and diagnostic module (SDM)
- Front and/or side impact sensors, impact sensor replacement policy requires replacing sensors in the area of the accident damage
- Driver/Passenger seat side air bag, if deployed
- · Seat back cover on if side seat air bag is deployed
- · Driver/Passenger seat belt anchor and/or retractor pretensioners
- Steering wheel air bag coil and the coil wiring pigtail—If melted, scorched, or other damaged due to excessive heat.



# Air Bag Repairs and Inspections Required After a Collision (cont.)

After a collision involving driver/passenger side seat air bag deployment, replace the following components.

- Left/right side impact sensors on the side of the impact.
- Left/right roof rail air bag on the side of the impact.
- Inflatable restraint sensing and diagnostic module (SDM), if SDM has DTC B0052 56.
- Inflatable restraint seat belt anchor and/or retractor pretensioner.
- Driver or passenger seat back cushion cover replacement.

**Warning:** Do not repair or replace the seat stitching or seams in the seat back trim cover with an internal mounted seat side airbag module. Replace the complete seat back trim cover from the OEM. Non-OEM seat stitching may cause improper airbag deployment which could result in personal injury.

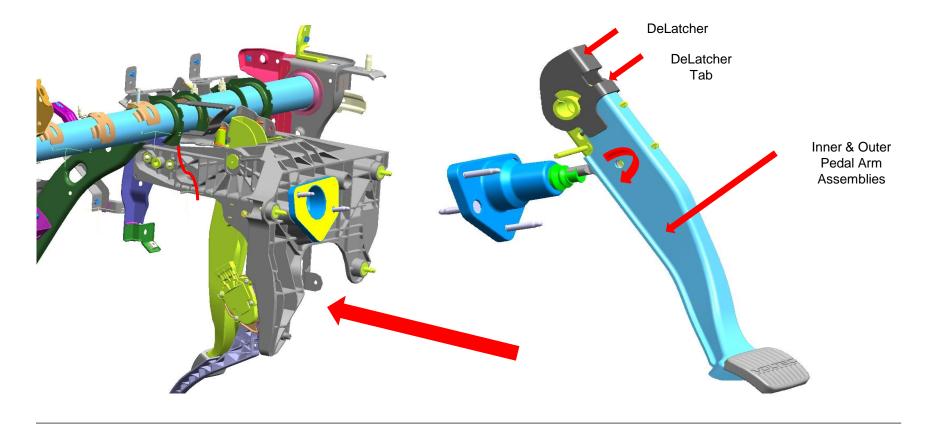
Perform additional inspections on the following components.

- The seat cushion frame
- · The seat recliner and cover, if equipped
- · The seat adjuster
- The seat back frame
- · Door trim assembly
- · Impacted seat cushion side covers and switches



#### **Break away Pedals**

If a crash is severe enough to damage the dash panel or distort it, it may cause the pedal assembly to disengage. If this occurs the pedal assembly would have to be replaced.





#### **System Components**

The Chevrolet Volt propulsion system is composed of the following components and systems:

- Drive Motor Battery
- Absorbent Glass Mat (AGM) low voltage battery (12V)
- Drive Motor / Generator Power inverter module
- Accessory DC Power Control Module
- High Voltage Battery Charger
- 1.4 Liter Engine
- 4ET50 Transmission
- Thermal Management Systems



#### **High and Low Voltage Batteries**

The Drive Motor Battery, also known as the high voltage battery, is a system of many components that operate together to provide the energy required for vehicle propulsion. High voltage contactors, internal to the battery pack, open and close to control the output of the high voltage battery.



The Chevrolet Volt's low voltage system (12V) utilizes an AGM lead acid battery. The battery is located in the rear compartment underneath the load floor. The low voltage energy is utilized by vehicle modules to control the high voltage battery contactors. Severing the low voltage cables should cause the system to open the contactors. The low voltage (12V) cable cut location is found behind the left rear closeout panel in the rear compartment of the vehicle.





#### **Power Electronics**

The Drive Motor / Generator Power Inverter Module is located on the drivers side of the engine compartment and is mounted on top of the transmission. The module changes the high voltage direct current into 3 phase alternating current. This 3- phase electrical energy is provided to the motors within the transmission for vehicle propulsion.



Drive Motor / Generator Power Inverter Module



Accessory DC Power Control Module

The Accessory DC Power Control Module, also known as the 14 volt Power Module, is located in the rear compartment beneath the load floor. The module. replaces the belt-driven generator common to conventional vehicles The module converts high voltage DC electrical energy into low voltage DC electrical energy to provide the energy needed for the vehicle systems.



#### **Charging System**

The Chevrolet Volt features an onboard high voltage charging system that recharges the high voltage battery. The system utilizes a unique cord to connect the vehicle to an electrical receptacle. The charger is located behind the right bumper fascia and below the headlamp assembly on North America Volts. The charger may be found in the engine compartment below the drive motor / generator power inverter module. The charger converts household Alternating Current (AC) into Direct Current (DC) voltage to charge the onboard battery.

The vehicle charge port provides the interface between the cords, power receptacle, and the charger.

In the event a Volt is involved in an incident while the battery charger is plugged in for charging the battery, remove the charge cord from the vehicle using the charger cord handle at the charge port in the left front fender. If that cannot be accomplished, the electrical power to the charge cord should be terminated at the source.



Vehicle Charge Port



High Voltage Charger



#### **Powertrain**

The 4ET50 transmission is a fully automatic, front-wheel drive transaxle, variable-speed, electronic controlled transmission. The transmission contains two electric motor / generators that are utilized to:

- Propel the vehicle
- Generate / recapture energy
- Start the internal combustion engine

4ET50 Transmission

1.4L Engine

The Chevrolet Volt uses an 1.4L internal combustion engine. The engine does not directly propel the vehicle, but operates only to spin the drive motor / generator(s).



#### Thermal Management Systems



The Vehicle utilizes three separate cooling systems that maintain the proper operating temperature of the components. The components include the drive motor battery, drive motor / generator power inverter module, drive motor battery charger, and engine. The cooling systems require a pre-mixed 50/50 solution of DEX-COOL® coolant and de-ionized water. Tap water should never be used in the cooling system as it will leave deposits and cause corrosion which effects heat sink performance.



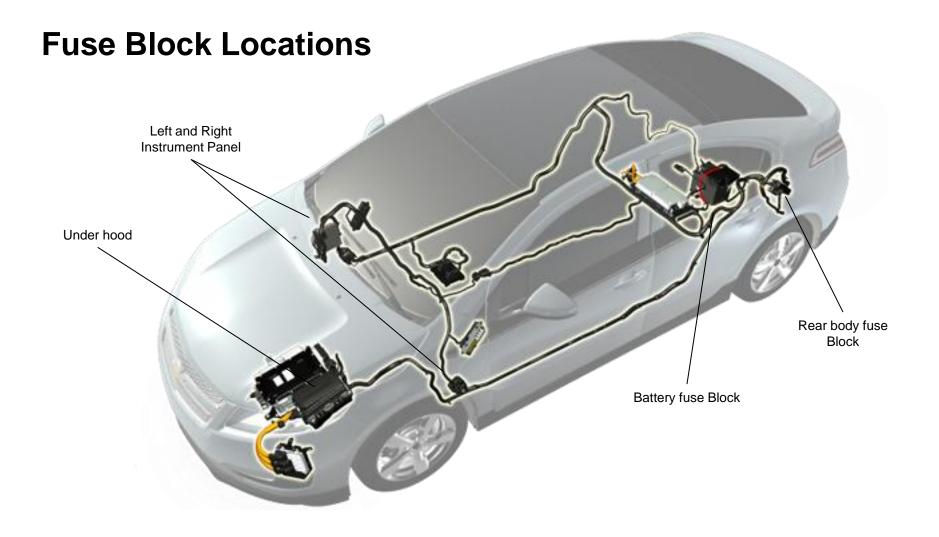
#### **System Operation**

There are two separate electrical systems, low voltage and high voltage. The low voltage system is similar to a conventional vehicle. The high voltage electrical system distributes 360 volts DC between the high voltage components and 3-phase AC to the transmission.

To reduce the risk of severe shock and burns, treat all high voltage cables and connectors as though they are energized until it can be verified that they are not. Full disabling procedures are located in the GM service manual for the vehicle.



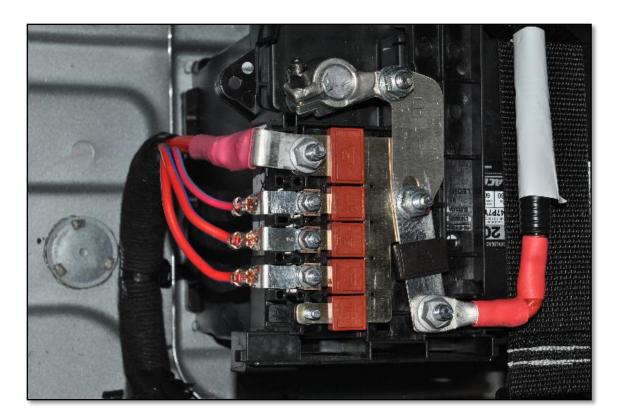






#### **Battery Fuse Block**

The battery fuse block supplies power through the high current fuses to the four electrical fuse blocks which include the underhood, rear body, and left and right instrument panels. The fuse block also connects to the accessory DC power control module through a 200-amp fuse. The fuse block is located directly on top of the 12 volt battery.





#### **Underhood Fuse Block**

The underhood electrical fuse block supplies fused low voltage electrical power to common non-hybrid underhood components, such as the Engine Control Module (ECM). The fuse block also supplies 12 volt power to hybrid components, such as the drive motor / generator power inverter module, Hybrid Powertrain Control Module 2 (HPCM 2), drive motor battery, and thermal management components. The fuse block is located in the left rear underhood area of the vehicle.





#### **Rear Body Fuse Block**

The rear body fuse block supplies vehicle components, such as the rear defogger, rear hatch release, and fuel pump. The fuse block is located in the left rear quarter panel area.





#### Left and Right Instrument Panel Fuse Blocks

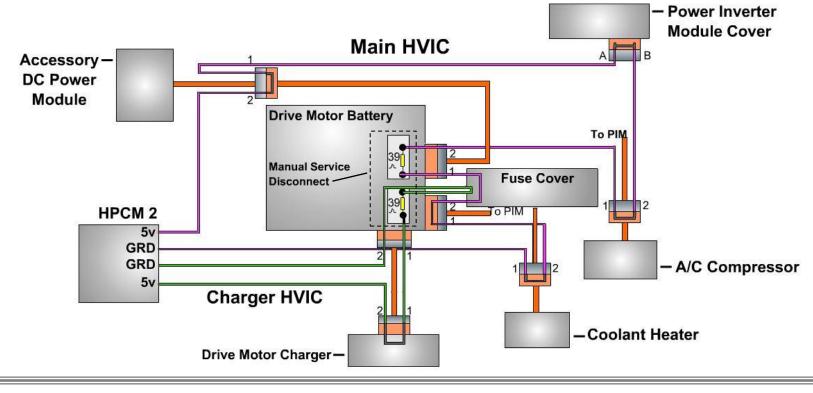
The left and right instrument panel fuse blocks supply power to components, such as the body control module, instrument panel cluster, radio, and 12 volt power receptacle. The fuse blocks are located on the left and right side of the instrument panel behind the trim access door.





#### High Voltage Interlock Circuit (HVIC) System

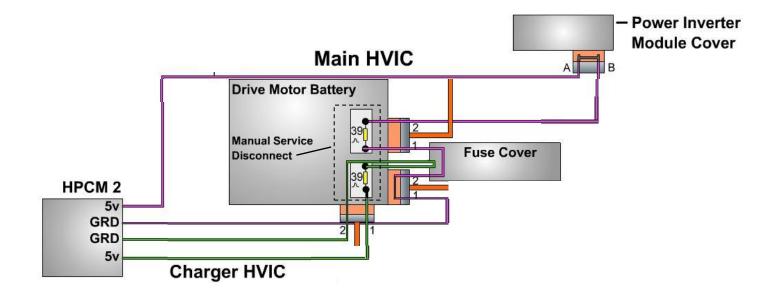
The High Voltage Interlock Circuit (HVIC) is a safety system that monitors access to high voltage components. If the high voltage disable procedure is not properly performed and service is attempted on the high voltage components, the system commands the contactors to open within the drive motor battery. The Chevrolet Volt features two dedicated and separate circuits, the main HVIC and the charger HVIC. The main HVIC monitors the primary high voltage components and cables while the charger HVIC monitors the high voltage charger components and cables. The schematic below represents the 2011 and 2012 model years.





#### High Voltage Interlock Circuit (HVIC) System (continued)

The HVIC system found on the 2013 model year Volt is different than previous years. This system eliminates the circuit connections to the peripheral devices such as the cabin heater, air conditioning compressor and the on board charger.





The Hybrid Powertrain Control Module (HPCM) 2 provides the main and charger HVIC circuits with 5 volts and ground. The module monitors each circuit for continuity. The modules primary responsibility is to monitor and control the drive motor battery.

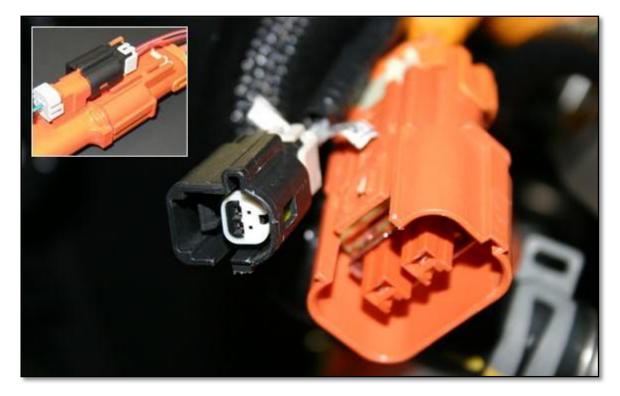
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#### **HVIC Connectors**

The HVIC connectors are stacked on some high voltage connectors. It is not physically possible to disconnect the high voltage cable connector before removing the HVIC connector. To disconnect the high voltage connector, use a dull pointed pick tool and press on the white Connector Position Assurance (CPA) tab that is protruding through the high voltage connector hole. Once the CPA is repositioned, disconnect the connector.

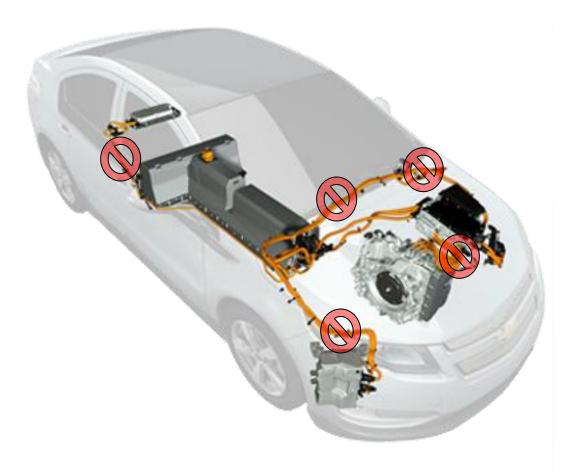




#### **High Voltage Cables**

The high voltage cables connect the high voltage components. The cables are orange to identify the potential existence of high voltage. Internal braided shielding reduces electromagnetic interference by dissipating it to chassis ground.

The high voltage cables in the Chevrolet Volt are highly protected and should not be cut . However, performing the disabling procedure prior to work eliminates electrical current flow through the 12 volt system and disables the high voltage electrical system, external to the 360V battery.



#### **3-Phase Cables**

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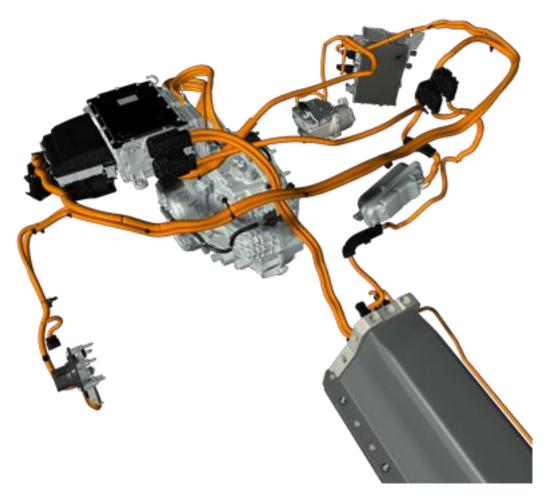
There is a set of 3-phase high voltage high current cables connected to each drive motor / generator within the transmission. Each of the cables connects one of the AC phases, U, V, or W to the drive motor coils. Additionally, there is a set of 3-phase high voltage cables connecting the auxiliary fluid pump motor to the drive motor / generator power inverter module





#### **Direct Current Cables**

High voltage positive and negative DC cables are isolated from the vehicle's chassis ground. The cables carry high voltage between the drive motor battery, drive motor / generator power inverter module, accessory direct current power control module, high voltage heater, AC compressor, and the vehicle's high voltage charging system.





#### **Manual Service Disconnect**

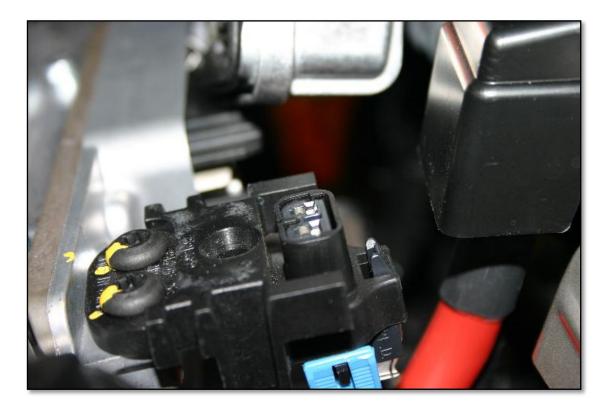
The Manual Service Disconnect (MSD) contains a 350 amp fuse and completes the series circuit inside the high voltage battery. Access to the MSD is from the inside of the vehicle, underneath the center console box. The MSD is removed during the disable procedure to physically interrupt the high voltage circuit within the drive motor battery.





#### **Drive Motor / Generator Power Inverter Module Cover**

During the disable procedure, the drive motor / generator power inverter module cover is removed to access the high voltage connectors. The HVIC opens when the cover is removed.





#### **High Voltage Labels**

The Chevrolet Volt features a series of high voltage labels that enable quick identification of potential electrical hazards. The labels are attached on each high voltage component.

The labels are color coded to indicate the potential high voltage state

ERGENCY PERSONNEL

为避免 人身伤害 ,在出现紧急情况时。 ● 将点火置于"关"的位置。
● 均斯在黄色胶带处 连接 的所有正极线缆 (位于后车厢区的 保险丝检修)。 为避免在维修车辆时导致人身伤害。

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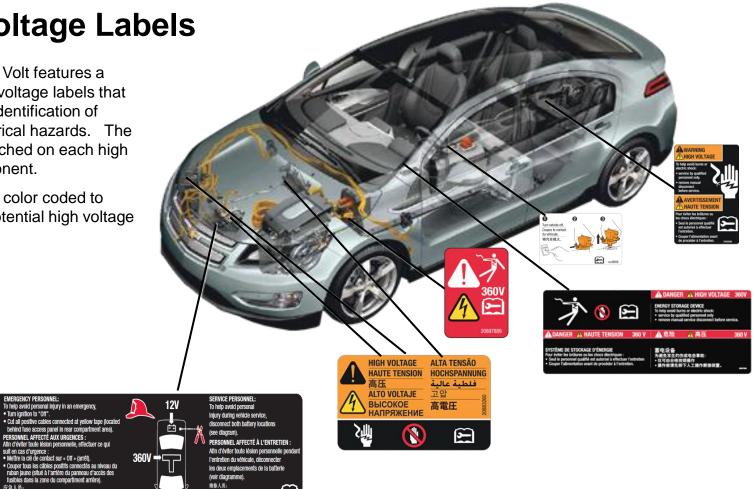
断开两个电池连接位置的连接。

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• Turn ignition to "Off".

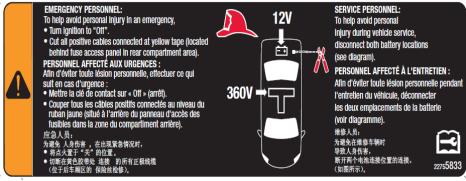
应急人品





#### **High Voltage Labels**

The emergency / service personnel warning label is affixed at the front of the engine compartment and provides specific procedures for emergency personnel.





The high voltage danger labels are red and indicate that high voltage is present at all times. These labels are located on the high voltage battery.

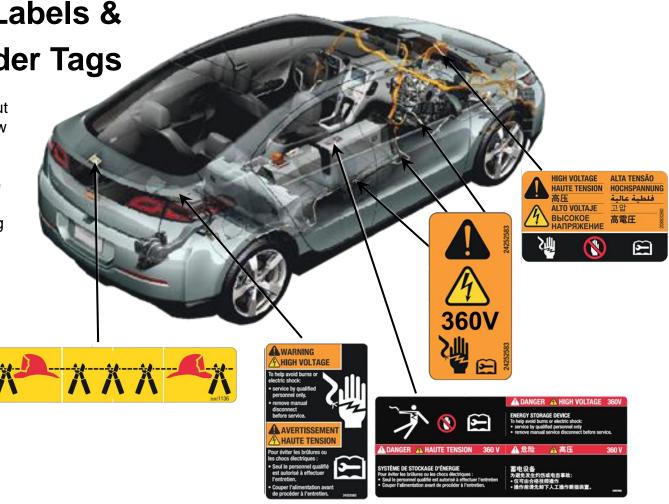
The high voltage warning labels are orange and indicate a potential shock hazard if high voltage is not properly disabled. The labels are located on all high voltage components with the exception of the high voltage battery which utilizes the danger label.



# High Voltage Labels & First Responder Tags

The First Responder cable cut tag is wrapped around the low voltage positive battery cable and is located in the rear compartment behind the fuse panel door. To help ensure that low voltage is not holding the high voltage contactors closed, first responders may cut the cable before an extrication is performed.

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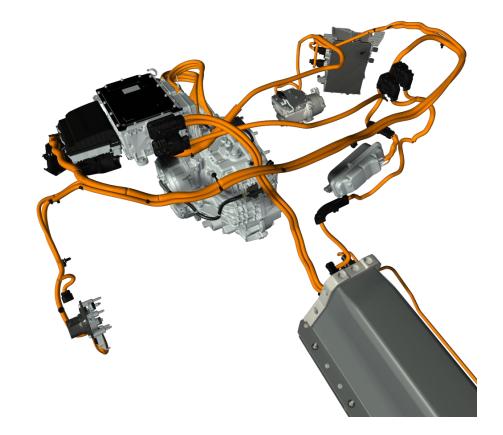


#### **High Voltage system Inspection**

The hybrid powertrain control module 2 will attempt to open the high voltage contactor relays and disable the vehicle whenever a SIR deployment occurs.

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A complete inspection of the high voltage system and components must be performed in accordance with service information if the vehicle has been involved in a collision. The Crash Event Detected condition will remain active until cleared by the hybrid powertrain control module 2 Clear Secured High Voltage DTCs output control function of the scan tool.





#### **High Voltage Disabling**

Full disabling and removal procedures are located in the GM service manual for the vehicle. **Danger:** Always perform the High Voltage Disabling procedure prior to servicing any High Voltage component or connection. Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and proper procedures must be followed. The High Voltage Disabling procedure will perform the following tasks:

- · Identify how to disable high voltage.
- Identify how to test for the presence of high voltage.

• Identify condition under which high voltage is always present and personal protection equipment (PPE) and proper procedures must be followed.

Before working on any high voltage system, be sure to wear the following Personal Protection Equipment: Safety glasses with appropriate side shields when within 15.24 meters (50 feet) of the vehicle, either indoors or outdoors.

- Certified and up-to-date Class "0" Insulation gloves rated at 1000V with leather protectors.
  - Visually and functionally inspect the gloves before use.

- Wear the Insulation gloves at all times when working with the high voltage battery assembly, whether the system is energized or not.

Failure to follow the procedures exactly as written may result in serious injury or death.

**Danger:** Damage to a Lithium Ion hybrid/EV battery pack could result in fire, loss of electrical isolation or exposure to high voltage. Until the high voltage system inspection has been completed, store the vehicle with hybrid/EV battery pack installed outside in a secure area away from buildings and other vehicles and protected from rain, snow and other moisture. Remove the hybrid/EV battery pack high voltage manual disconnect lever and store it in a secure place outside the vehicle. Cover the exposed high voltage opening with UL® listed, or equivalent, insulation tape rated at a minimum of 600 V. Failure to follow these precautions could result in personal injury, death and property damage.



#### **HV Battery Removal**

The used battery must be removed and returned with a battery assembly lifting fixture (GM Special Tool EL-49976.) This lifting fixture will be attached to the used battery and placed in the shipping cocoon. Each new service battery will come with a battery assembly lifting fixture for use during installation. You will keep this fixture for servicing future battery removals.

**Danger:** The high voltage (HV) battery must be protected when outside of the vehicle. This is why the battery must be immediately placed in the original shipping container (cocoon).





#### **HV Battery Shipment**

Lithium-ion batteries are considered hazardous material and require special shipping regulations. Lithium-ion batteries are classified as Class 9 hazardous material. Identifications (referred to as UN numbers) exist for the various battery packs based on chemistry and configuration. Refer to the return shipping instructions included with the replacement battery for specific identification needed for transportation.

Make sure that the shipping paperwork is filled out correctly and that the shipment is properly labeled per federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Check to make sure that you are complying with any recordkeeping requirements. Only certified hazardous material personal should handle hazardous material.

NOTE: A damaged battery (one that is leaking from the battery pack) may need to be shipped differently as a hazardous waste depending on your regional requirements and those of the consignee. Check your local regulations.



## Handling

#### Fire

If battery cells reach high enough temperature, they vent and release electrolyte. Battery electrolyte is flammable. Use copious amounts of water to cool the battery and extinguish the fire. ABC dry chemical extinguisher will not extinguish a battery fire.

#### Water

The high voltage battery is sealed and isolated from the vehicle chassis. If the vehicle is immersed in water, you will not be electrocuted by touching the vehicle.

Locate and review the Lithium-Ion Battery Chemistry Material Safety Data Sheet for more information.





#### Conclusion

General Motors is committed to making your job as safe as possible.

We are confident the information contained in this guide will prove useful. Always refer to General Motors Service information for additional details and procedures.



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