

NEWS FROM PONTIAC

Public Relations Department • Pontiac Division • General Motors Corporation • Pontiac, MI 48053 • Telephone (313) 857-1572

FOR RELEASE

September 5, 1988

Contact: Sheila C. Main

1989 PONTIAC FIREBIRD

For 1989, Pontiac's premium performer, the Firebird, continues its more than two decade heritage of high-powered excitement. From performance machine enthusiasts to sporty car buyers looking for that trademark styling, Firebird offers drivers a complete range of power and price.

The model lineup is:

Firebird
Firebird Formula
Trans Am
Trans Am GTA

For 1989, the Multec fuel injectors have been revised for more reliability and less susceptibility to fuel fouling. The self-adjusting rear disc brakes have been completely revised with new caliper and rotor design. Pass key anti-theft protection, previously standard only on the GTA, is now standard on all cars in the lineup; successful in reducing Corvette thefts by 40 percent, this system should help to keep insurance premiums down. The electric hatchlid pulldown has been revised, and door glass seals have been improved for better sealing and less wind noise. The entire Firebird line will receive clearcoat paint over the base color coat for long-lasting high gloss. New in the color lineup is bright blue metallic. Standard equipment across the entire 1989 Pontiac lineup, all Firebird models have three-point lap and shoulder belts for rear seat occupants. Available options across the line now include removable T-tops, a variety of radios and an all-new compact digital disc player.

TRANS AM GTA

The ultimate Firebird, and one of the foremost American performance cars, the Trans Am GTA is now available in two body styles - the hatchback and the optional notchback. This distinctively contoured notchback serves to set the top-of-the-line GTA apart from its stablemates and competitors.

The Trans Am has never been short of performance, and the 1989 GTA will not disappoint those seeking a high-powered, American-built 2+2. The power is provided by the 5.7-liter (350 cu. in.) V-8 equipped with tuned-port injection (TPI), which develops 225 bhp and 330 lbs. ft. of torque and is coupled to a 4-speed automatic transmission.

(more)



Optional on the GTA is the 5.0-liter V-8, (also with TPI), available with five-speed manual. The 5.0-liter develops 215 bhp in manual-transmission tune.

On the GTA, those who select the 5.0-liter with manual transmission will get a 3.45:1 final drive axle ratio. A limited-slip differential is standard with both the 5.0-liter and 5.7-liter engines.

The WS6 performance suspension is standard. New deflected-disc valving for the gas-filled shocks and struts offer increased ride comfort, yet do not compromise the Trans Am's high levels of handling. Front 36mm and rear 24mm anti-roll bars make certain that the P245/50ZR16 Goodyear tires on lightweight 16" cross-laced aluminum wheels remain securely planted. To qualify under the new "Z" rating, these tires have shown their ability to withstand sustained speeds in excess of 145 mph. They offer better wet traction, less impact harshness, less road wander and better fuel economy than their predecessors.

Leather-covered bucket seats with increased thigh support and inflatable lumbar and side bolsters are optional; cloth articulating seats are standard. Standard features include air conditioning, cruise control, power windows and door locks, power antenna, AM/FM cassette radio with graphic equalizer and redundant controls on the wheel hub, and 45/45 split folding rear seats. On the GTA notchback, the rear seats have integral headrests.

TRANS AM

The Trans Am offers many of the GTA's image and performance features at a more affordable price.

Standard engine is the 5.0-liter (305 cu. in.) throttle-body-injected (TBI) V-8, developing 170 bhp and 255 lbs. ft. of torque. Also available are the 5.0-liter TPI and 5.7-liter TPI engines. Both 5.0-liter engines come with 5-speed manual transmissions, and are available with 4-speed automatics; the 5.7-liter is only available with the automatic. A limited-slip differential is standard on the Trans Am with the 5.0L TPI and 5.7L TPI engines.

Standard on the Trans Am is the F41 suspension, with 34mm front and 23mm rear anti-roll bars, and recalibrated spring and shock rates. Standard tires are Firestone Firehawk GTX, P215/65R15 on 15" x 7" cast aluminum alloy wheels. The Trans Am can, however, be optionally equipped with the WS6 suspension and tire package used on the GTA. Air conditioning is standard.

FIREBIRD FORMULA

The Formula appeals to the budget-conscious high-performance "street machine" buyer, for whom performance as well as price are paramount.

Standard and optional engines are identical to those of the Trans Am. However, for the Formula, a power increase of 10 bhp over the GTA's 225 bhp has been realized through the use of a dual catalytic converter low-back pressure exhaust system. In numbers, the added power should be good for a 0.2 to 0.3 second reduction in 0-60 mph times.

The WS6 suspension and tire package of the GTA is also standard on the Formula.

Air conditioning is standard. Also for 1989, the exterior graphics package has been revised, with a narrower side stripe.

FIREBIRD

The Pontiac Firebird offers style and handling for value-conscious sporty car buyers desiring a performance image at an affordable price.

Standard engine is the 2.8-liter multi-port fuel-injected V-6, coupled to a 5-speed manual transmission. The 2.8-liter develops 135 bhp and 160 lbs. ft. of torque. The 170-bhp 5-liter TBI V-8 with 5-speed is optional. Four-speed automatic transmissions are optional for both engines.

The V-6 engine gets the FE1 suspension package, with 30mm front and 18mm rear anti-roll bars. The F41 suspension of the Trans Am is standard when the V-8 is ordered. Air conditioning is optional with the V-6, but standard with the V-8.

The exterior striping package is identical to the Formula.

20th ANNIVERSARY TRANS AM

The Trans Am legend was born in 1969. To commemorate the 20th birthday of this enduring performance machine, Pontiac will build a special series of 1500 20th Anniversary Trans Ams, contented to the level of the GTA.

Ample power will be provided by the turbocharged 3.8-liter engine, developing approximately 245 bhp and torque of 340 lbs. ft. The engine will be coupled to a 4-speed automatic transmission and limited-slip differential.

All Anniversary Trans Ams will be white with camel interior. Externally, the GTA emblem on the nose will be changed to a "20th Anniversary" insignia, a similar cloisonne emblem can be found on the sail, and the "GTA" script on the front fenders will be replaced by "Turbo Trans Am." Additional unique features will distinguish this special model from other regular production GTA's.

###

1989 PONTIAC FIREBIRD MAJOR OPTIONS AND EQUIPMENT

	<u>Firebird</u>	<u>Firebird Formula</u>	<u>Trans Am</u>	<u>GTA</u>
5.7-liter TPI V-8 engine*		○	○	●
5.0-liter TPI V-8 engine	-	○	○	○°
5.0-liter TBI V-8 engine	○	●	●	
2.8-liter MFI V-6 engine	●			
5-speed manual transmission #	●	●	●	-
4-speed automatic transmission	○	○	○	●
WS6 Sport Suspension with P245/50ZR16 tires		●	○	●
F41 Suspension	●@		●	
FE1 Suspension	●		-	
P215/65R15 tires	●		●	-
P245/50ZR16 tires	-	●	-	●
Air conditioning	○@	●	●	●
T-top	○	○	○	○
Leather seats			-	○
AM/FM stereo w/cassette, equalizer clock & steering wheel controls			○	●
AM stereo/FM stereo, CD, equalizer & clock (interim)	○	○	○	○
AM/FM cassette stereo w/equalizer & clock	○	○	○	
AM/FM cassette stereo w/clock	○	○	○	
AM/FM stereo w/clock	●	●	●	

* Not available with manual transmission

Not available with 5.7-liter engine

@ Standard with V-8 only

° Not available with automatic transmission

- - Standard
- - Available

1989 PONTIAC FIREBIRD SPECIFICATIONS

ENGINE:	5.7-LITER TPI	5.0-LITER TPI
Displacement, cc.	5733	5012
cu. in.	350	305
Bore x stroke, mm.	101.6 x 88.4	95.0 x 88.4
in.	4.00 x 3.48	3.74 x 3.48
Compression ratio	9.3:1	9.3:1
Horsepower @ rpm	235 bhp @ 4400 (Formula) 225 bhp @ 4400 (GTA, T/A)	215 bhp @ 4400 (manual) 190 bhp @ 4000 (automatic)
Torque @ rpm	330 lbs. ft. @ 3200 (Formula) 330 lbs. ft. @ 3200 (GTA, T/A)	285 lbs. ft. @ 3200 (manual) 295 lbs. ft. @ 2800 (automatic)
Fuel delivery	Tuned port injection	Tuned port injection
Fuel recommendation	91 (premium unleaded)	91 (premium unleaded)

	5.0-LITER TBI	2.8-LITER MFI
Displacement, cc.	5012	2830
cu. in.	305	173
Bore x stroke, mm.	95.0 x 88.4	88.9 x 76.0
in.	3.74 x 3.48	3.50 x 2.99
Compression ratio	9.3:1	8.9:1
Horsepower @ rpm	170 bhp @ 4000	135 bhp @ 4900
Torque @ rpm	225 lbs. ft. @ 2400	160 lbs. ft. @ 3900
Fuel delivery	Throttle body injection	Multi-port fuel injection
Fuel recommendation	87 (regular unleaded)	87 (regular unleaded)

TRANSMISSION:	5.7 TPI	5.0 TPI	5.0 TPI	5.0 TPI
	auto	man (M39)	man (MK6)	auto
1st gear	3.06	2.95	2.75	3.06
2nd gear	1.63	1.94	1.94	1.63
3rd gear	1.00*	1.34	1.34	1.00*
4th gear	0.70*	1.00	1.00	0.70*
5th gear		0.63		
final drive	3.27 Formula, Trans Am, GTA	3.08 Trans Am 3.45 Formula, GTA	3.45 Formula, Trans Am, GTA	2.73 Formula, Trans Am

TRANSMISSION:	5.0 TBI	5.0 TBI	2.8 MFI	2.8 MFI
	manual	auto	manual	auto
1st gear	2.95	3.06	4.03	3.06
2nd gear	1.94	1.63	2.37	1.63
3rd gear	1.34	1.00*	1.50	1.00*
4th gear	1.00	0.70*	1.00	0.70*
5th gear	0.63		0.76	
final drive	3.08	2.73	3.42	3.42

*Automatic transmissions have lockup torque converter for 3rd & 4th gear

SUSPENSION:

front:

WS6MacPherson struts
36mm anti-roll bar**F41**same,
34mm anti-roll bar**FE1**same,
30mm anti-roll bar

rear:

live axle, lower
control arms,
torque arm, Panhard,
rod, coil springs,
24mm anti-roll bar

same,

23mm anti-roll bar

same,

18mm anti-roll bar

STEERING:

ratio

RECIRC. BALL

12.7:1

RECIRC. BALL

12.7:1

RECIRC. BALL

14:1

Turns, lock to lock

2.26

2.47

2.72

Turning circle, ft.

32.6

32.6

32.6

BRAKES:f: 10.5" vented disc
r: 10.5" vented disc
power assisted**CURB WEIGHTS, LBS.:**

Firebird

3083

Formula

3318

Trans Am

3337

GTA

3486

GTA notchback

3458

EPA FUEL ECONOMY, MPG:**CITY****HIGHWAY**

5.7-liter

16

25

5.0-liter TPI manual

16

26

5.0-liter TPI automatic

16

23

5.0-liter TBI manual

16

25

5.0-liter TBI automatic

16

24

3.8-liter turbo

TBD

TBD

2.8-liter manual

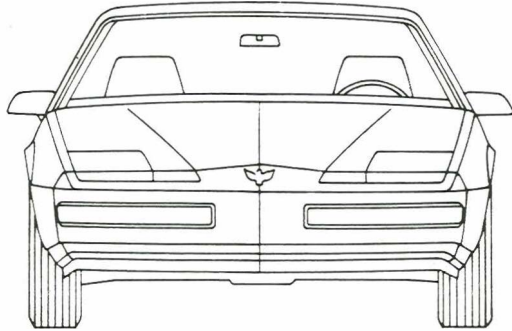
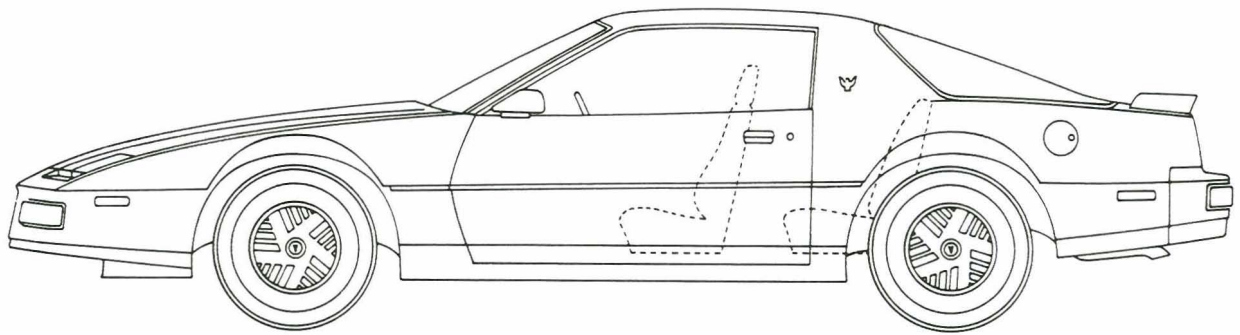
19

27

2.8-liter automatic

17

27



Exterior:

	FIREBIRD
	Mm. (In.)
Wheelbase	2566 (101.0)
Overall length	4833 (190.3)
Width	1839 (72.4)
Overall height	1264 (49.8)
Tread, front	1541 (60.7)
Tread, rear	1564 (61.6)

Interior-front:

Headroom	940 (37.0)
Legroom	1092 (43.0)
Shoulder room	1466 (57.7)
Hip room	1430 (56.3)

Interior-rear:

Headroom	905 (35.6)
Legroom	727 (28.6)
Shoulder room	1430 (56.3)
Hip room	1087 (42.8)
Cargo index volume w/rear seat up (liters/cu. ft.)	312 (12.3)
Cargo index volume w/rear seat down (liters/cu. ft.)	884 (34.8)
Fuel tank capacity (liters/gallons)	58.7 (15.5)

5.0-LITER ENGINES

The 5.0-liter engines, available with throttle body injection or tuned port injection, are available in the following 1989 Pontiac Firebird and Trans Am models.

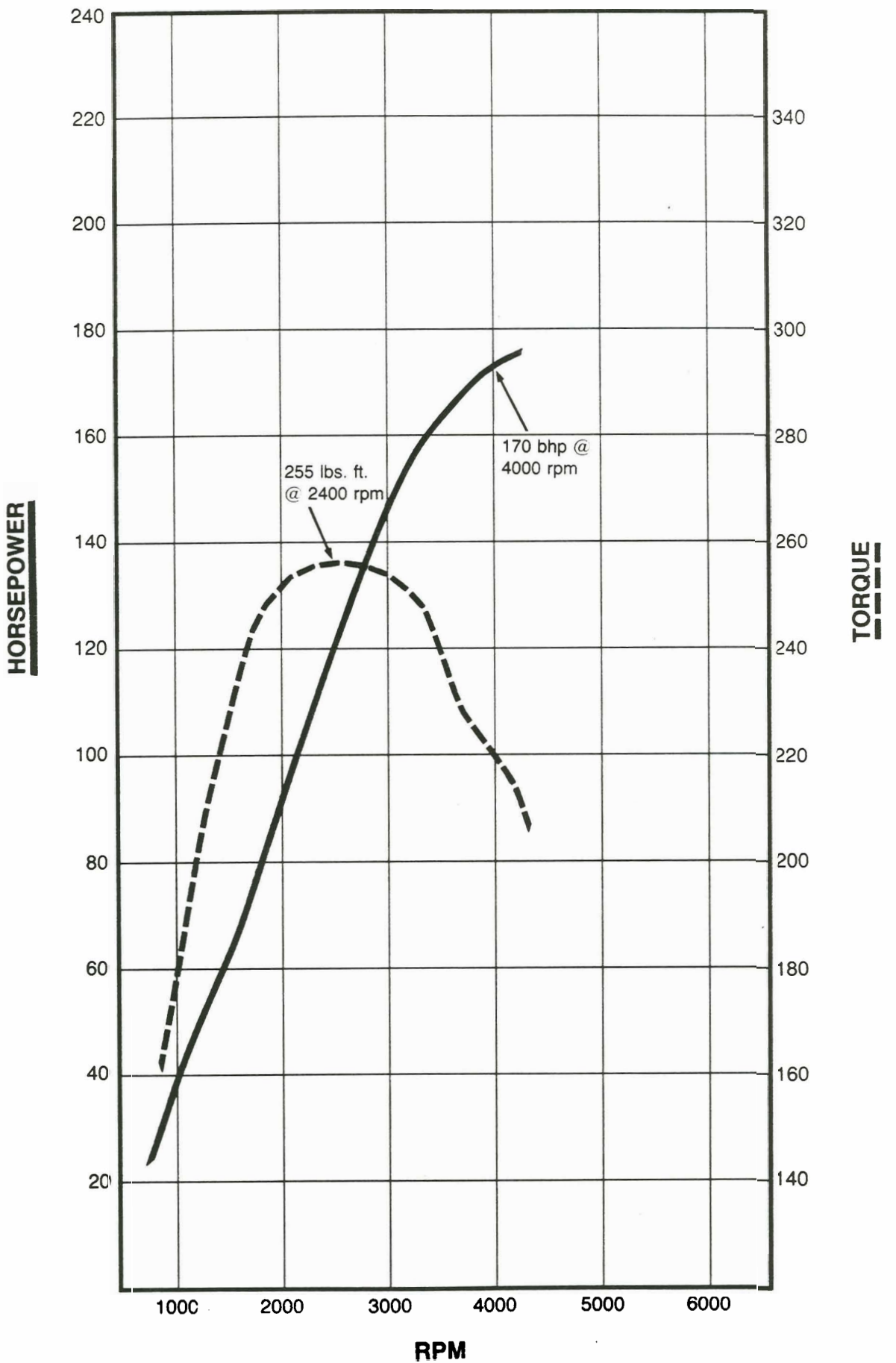
5.0-liter TPI:	Trans Am GTA (coupe & notchback; optional) Trans Am (optional) Firebird Formula (optional)
5.0-liter TBI:	Trans Am (standard) Firebird Formula (standard) Firebird (optional)

ENGINE SPECIFICATIONS

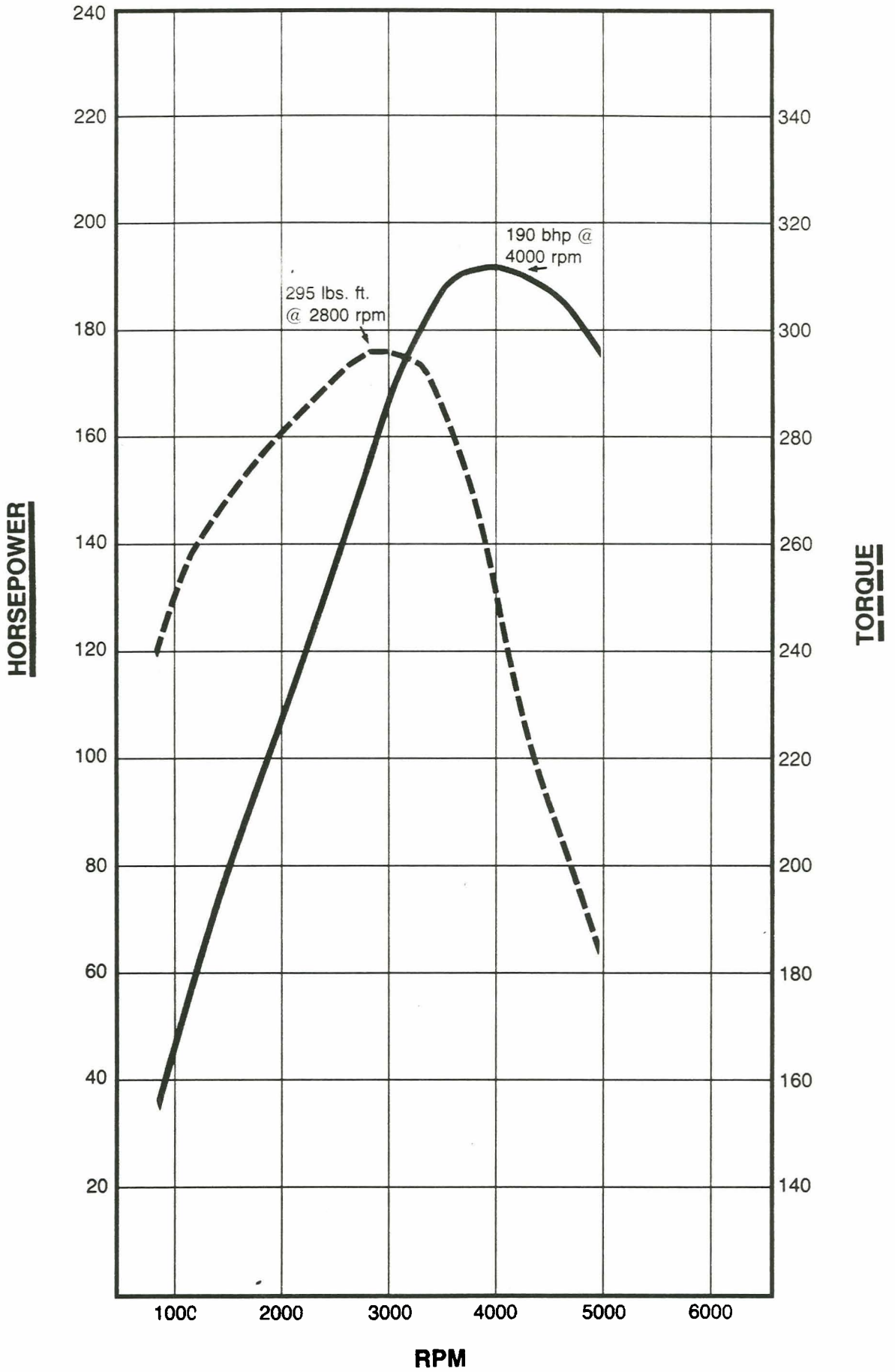
<u>ENGINE:</u>	<u>5.0-LITER TPI ENGINE</u>	<u>5.0-LITER TBI ENGINE</u>
Configuration	OHV 90-degree V-8	OHV 90-degree V-8
Valve actuation	Pushrods, hydraulic roller lifters	Pushrods, hydraulic roller lifters
Displacement, cc.	5012	5012
cu. in.	305	305
Bore x stroke, mm.	95.0 x 88.4	95.0 x 88.4
in.	3.74 x 3.48	3.74 x 3.48
Compression ratio	9.3:1	9.3:1
Horsepower @ rpm.	215 bhp @ 4400 (manual) 190 bhp @ 4000 (automatic)	170 bhp @ 4000
Torque @ rpm.	280 lbs. ft. @ 3200 (manual) 295 lbs. ft. @ 2800 (automatic)	255 lbs. ft. @ 2400
Fuel delivery	Tuned port injection	Throttle body injection
Fuel recommendation	91 (premium unleaded)	87 (regular unleaded)
Block material	Cast iron	
Cylinder head mat'l	Cast iron	
Pistons	Aluminum	
Connecting rod mat'l	SAE 1037 or 1038 steel	
Crankshaft mat'l	Nodular cast iron	
Camshaft mat'l	Steel	
Intake manifold mat'l	Aluminum	
Exhaust manifold mat'l	Cast iron	
Emissions controls	Oxidizing and reducing catalytic converter; EGR; air injection	

###

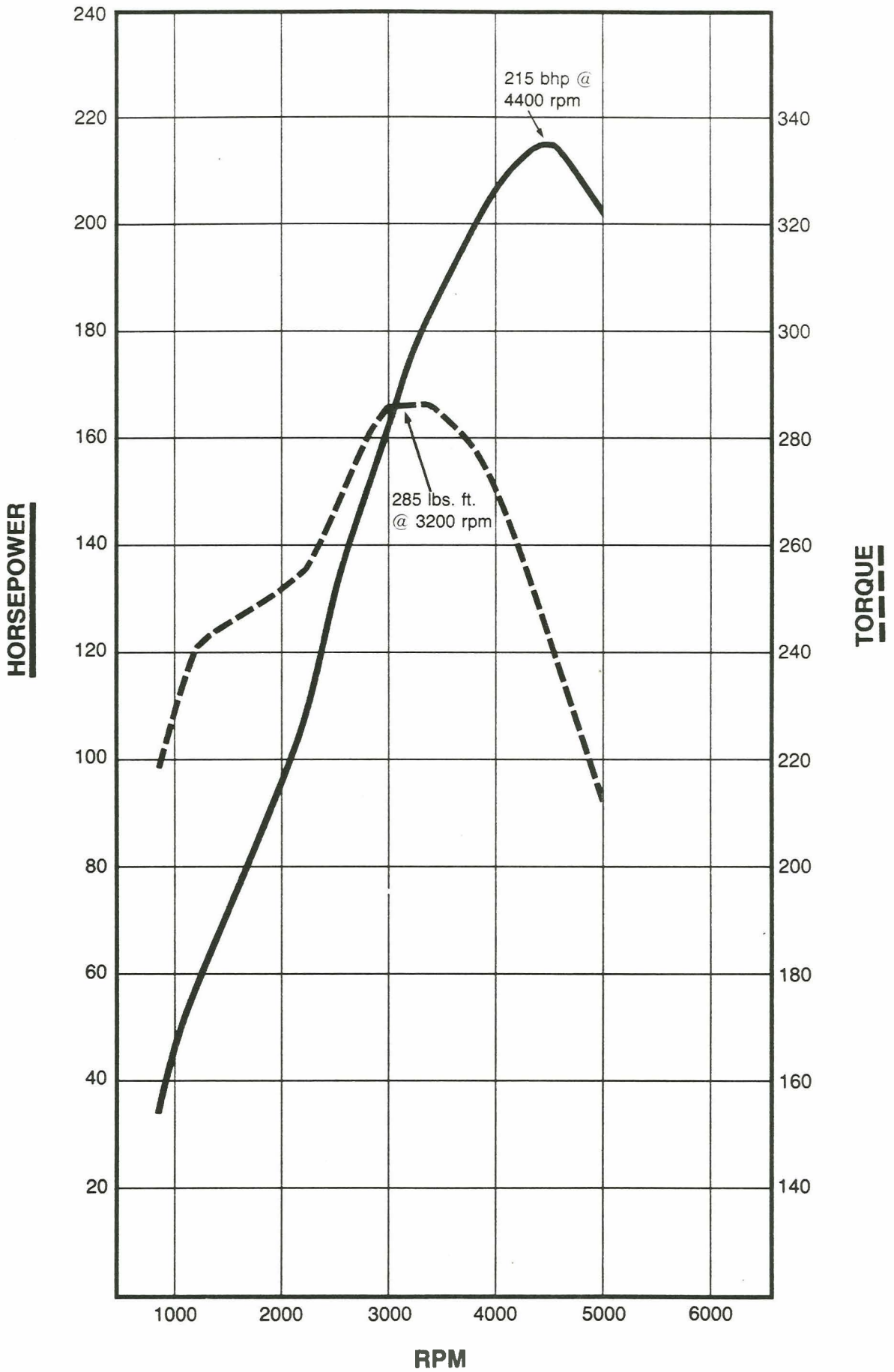
5.0-LITER TBI V8



5.0-LITER TPI V8 (Automatic)



5.0-LITER TPI V8 (Manual)



5.7-LITER ENGINES

The 5.7-liter engine is available in the following 1989 Pontiac Firebird and Trans Am models:

Trans Am GTA (coupe & notchback; standard)
Trans Am (optional)
Firebird Formula (optional)

The 5.7-liter engine gains 10 extra horsepower in the Formula installation thanks to a dual exhaust system, bringing output to approximately 235 bhp at 4400 rpm.

ENGINE SPECIFICATIONS

ENGINE:

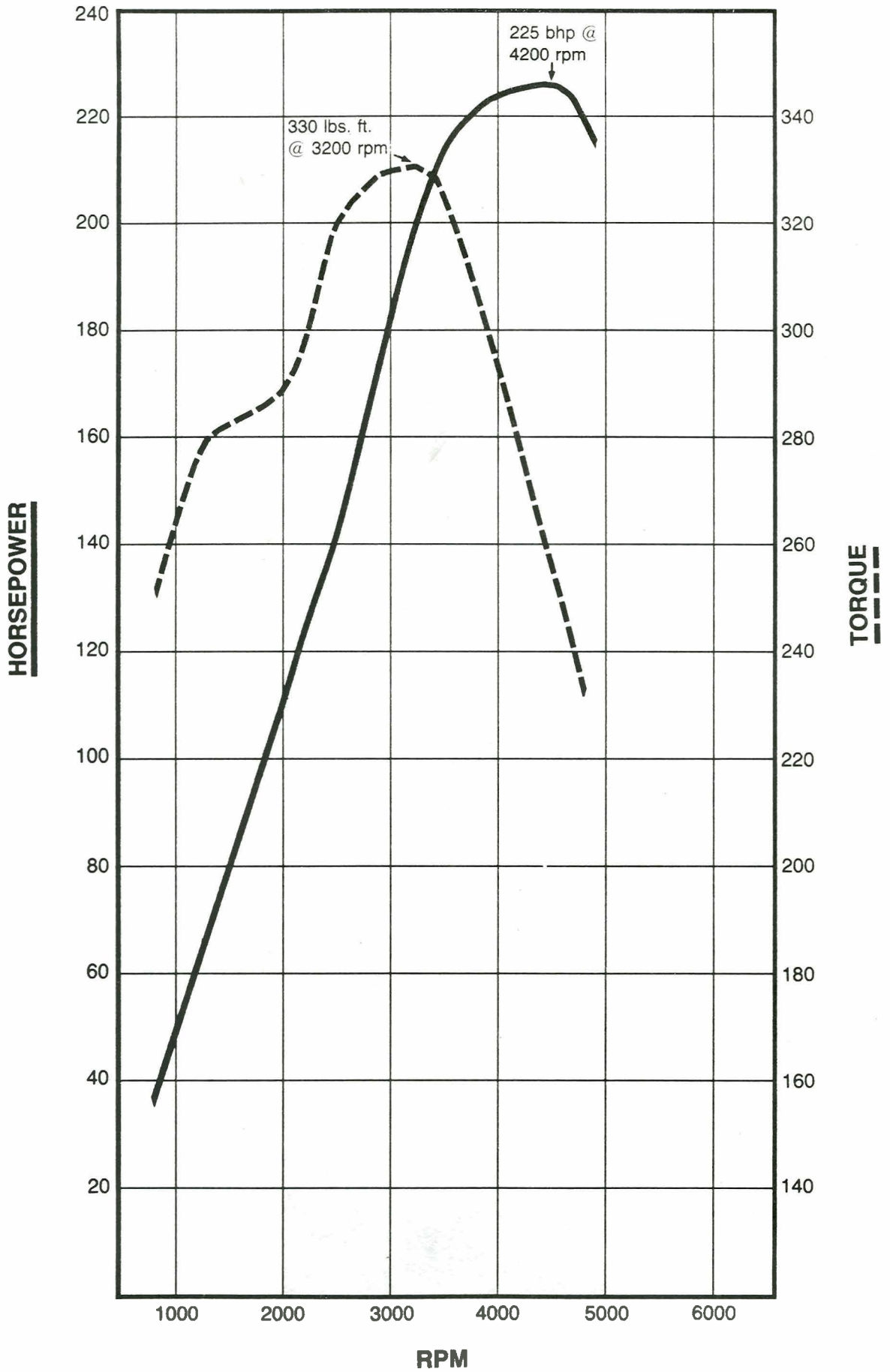
5.7-LITER ENGINE

(Formula)

	(Trans Am)	(Formula)
Configuration	OHV 90-degree V-8	OHV 90-degree V-8
Valve actuation	Pushrods, hydraulic roller lifters	Pushrods, hydraulic roller lifters
Displacement, cc.	5733	5733
cu. in.	350	350
Bore x stroke, mm.	101.6 x 88.4	101.6 x 88.4
in.	4.00 x 3.48	4.00 x 3.48
Compression ratio	9.3:1	9.3:1
Horsepower @ rpm.	225 bhp @ 4200	235 bhp @ 440
Torque @ rpm.	330 lbs. ft. @ 3200	330 lbs. ft. @ 3200
Fuel delivery	Tuned port injection	
Fuel recommendation	91 (premium unleaded)	
Block material	Cast iron	
Cylinder head mat'l	Cast iron	
Pistons	Aluminum	
Connecting rod mat'l	SAE 1037 or 1038 steel	
Crankshaft mat'l	Nodular cast iron	
Camshaft mat'l	Steel	
Intake manifold mat'l	Aluminum	
Exhaust manifold mat'l	Cast iron	
Emissions controls	Oxidizing and reducing catalytic converter; EGR; air injection	

###

5.7-LITER TPI V8



3.8-LITER TURBO V-6 ENGINE

The 3.8-liter turbocharged intercooled V-6 is installed on the 20th Anniversary Trans Am.

ENGINE SPECIFICATIONS

ENGINE:

3.8-LITER TURBO

Configuration	90-degree OHV V-6
Valve actuation	Pushrods, hydraulic roller lifters
Displacement, cc.	3791
cu. in.	231
Bore x stroke, mm.	96.52 x 86.36
in.	3.80 x 3.40
Compression ratio	8.0:1
Horsepower @ rpm.	245 bhp @ 4400
Torque @ rpm.	340 lbs. ft. @ 2800
Fuel delivery	Sequential fuel injection (SFI)
Fuel recommendation	91 (regular unleaded)
Block material	Cast iron
Cylinder head mat'l	Cast iron
Pistons	Aluminum alloy
Connecting rod mat'l	Armasteel
Crankshaft mat'l	Nodular cast iron
Camshaft mat'l	Cast iron
Intake manifold mat'l	Aluminum
Turbocharger	Garrett T3, air-cooled center housing
Intercooler	Garrett 10-tube, air-to-air
Exhaust manifold mat'l	Tubular stainless steel
Emissions controls	Oxidizing and reducing 3-way monolithic catalytic converter; electronic EGR

###

3.8-LITER TURBO

