

6

Body-In-White Concepts

The first design priority was frontal crashworthiness performance, thereby establishing the general design and arrangement of the front-end structure load paths and powertrain package.

6.1 BACKGROUND

One of the fundamental tasks for ULSAB-AVC was to develop two different vehicle-type body structures that met program targets including:

- Crashworthiness
- Mass
- Structural performance
- Vehicle dimensions
- Common platform

The first priority was frontal crashworthiness performance, thereby establishing the general design and arrangement of the front-end structure load paths for the selected powertrain package. Considering the stringent side impact crash demands, the focus of attention was then first set on the passenger compartment environment and next the rear end structure.

Based on the philosophy that the structural performance in one region of a vehicle may, or will influence that of another, an holistic design approach was used for the development of the ULSAB-AVC body structure architecture.

6.2. Common Platform Approach – Body Structure

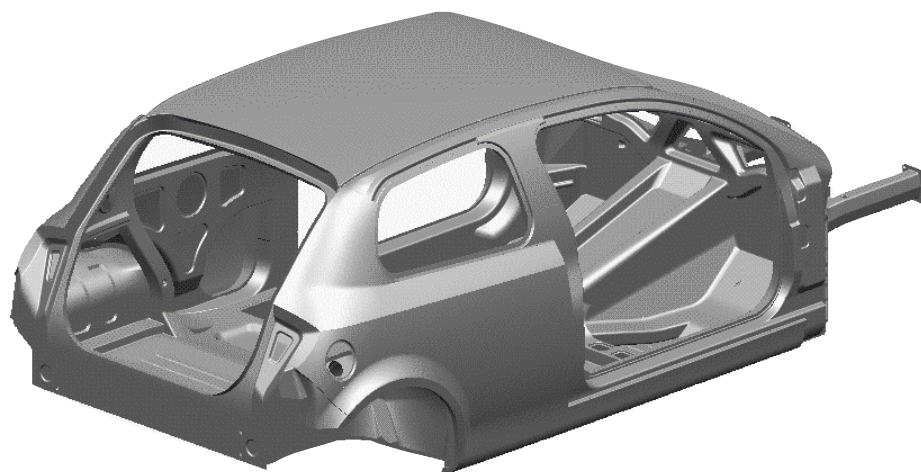


Figure 6.2-1 Body structure – C-Class vehicle

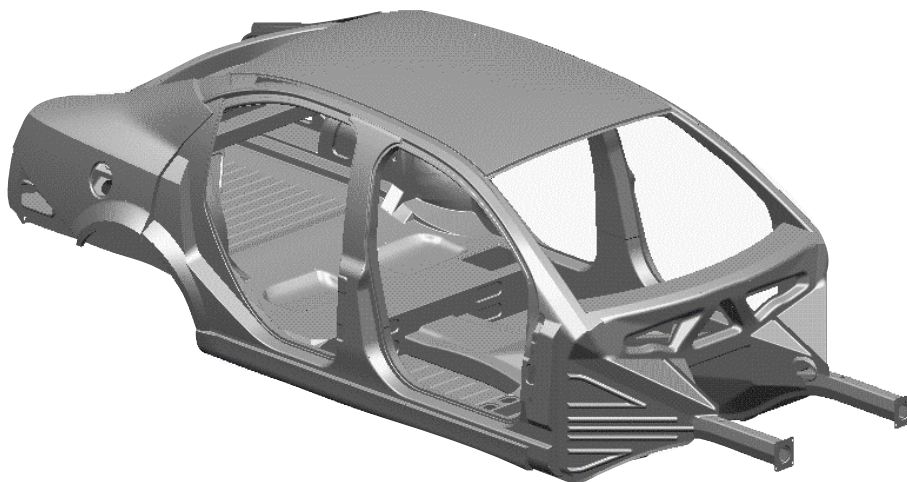


Figure 6.2-2 Body structure - PNGV-Class vehicle

One very important aspect of the conceptual design approach to the ULSAB-AVC program, was the development of two different body structures as shown in Figures 6.2-1 and 6.2-2 (2-door hatchback, 4-door sedan) of two different vehicle classes (C-Class and PNGV-Class), while at the same time integrating as much common structure, individual parts, joints or complete sub-assemblies, into both structure variants. By integrating as many parts as possible, into both vehicle variants, cost-related benefits, such as part manufacturing costs, body assembly costs and vehicle assembly costs can be achieved. Figures 6.2-3 and 6.2-4 show the C-Class and PNGV-Class vehicles split to emphasize the common front end. In addition, the rear end structures also share some common parts and joints.

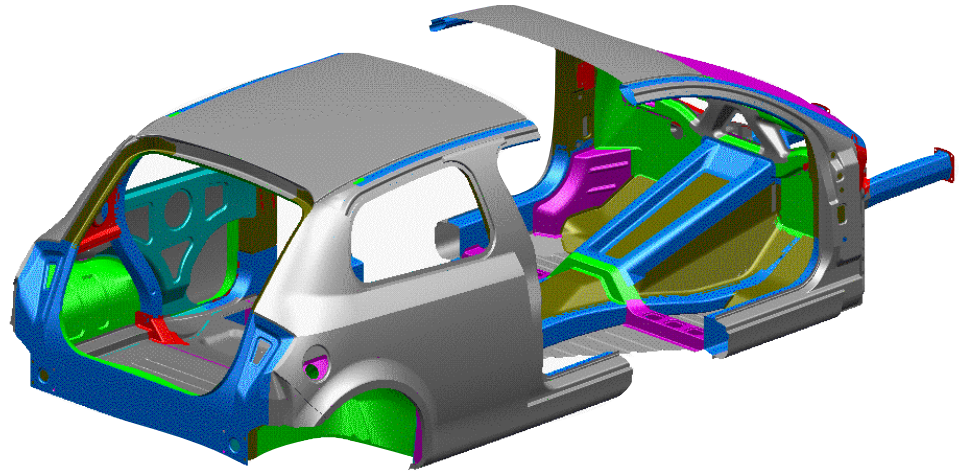


Figure 6.2-3 C-Class

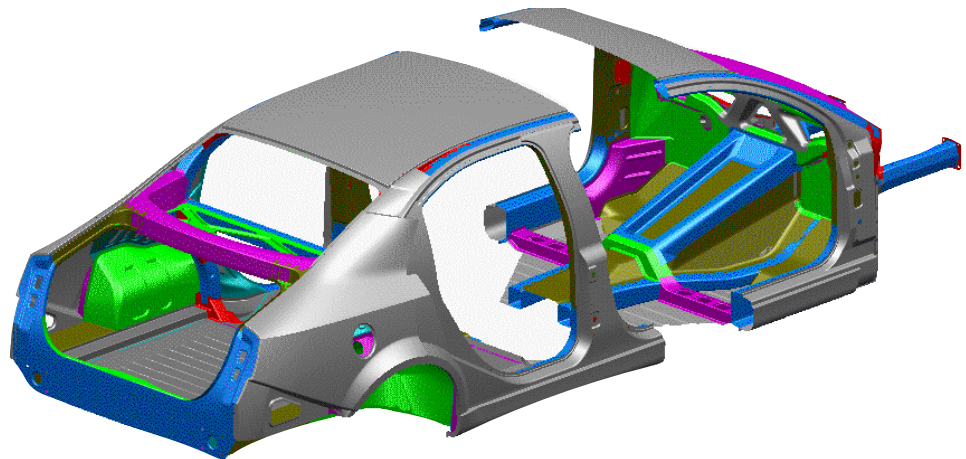


Figure 6.2-4 PNGV-Class

The program goals for a platform approach of both vehicle concepts have been accomplished. Figure 6.2-5 shows the features of the common platform approach.

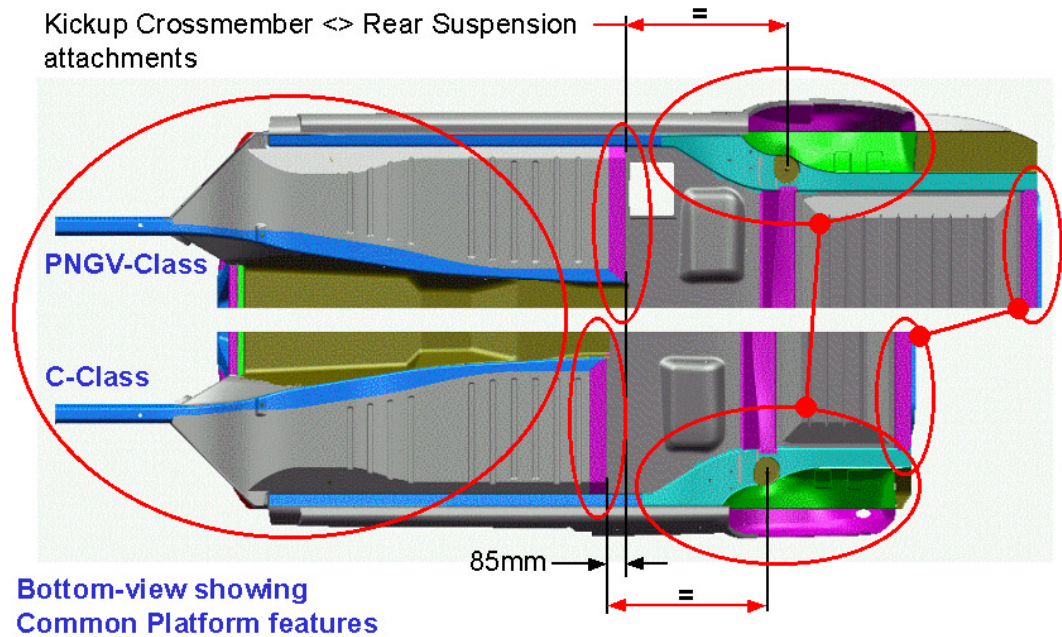


Figure 6.2-5 Common Platform features

Apart from the body side outer panels, body side members and rocker inner panels, the front-end structure is virtually identical for both vehicle variants up to the B-pillar. Minor exceptions can be found at the front rail members, tunnel, and front floor panels. Nevertheless, these parts can be manufactured using common dies, followed by similar trim operations respectively. The A-pillar, and all joints pertaining to it, are common. Although very different in design, some areas of the body side outer panels, body side members and rocker inner panels are similar.

Figures 6.2-6 and 6.2-7 show the exploded view of C-Class and PNV-Class respectively.

Parts Numbers are identified according to the following convention in Table 6.2-1. Table 6.2-2 is the Parts List for both the C-Class and PNV-Class body structures respectively.

Table 6.2-1 ULSAB-AVC part and CAD model number convention

ULSAB-AVC Part and CAD Model Number Convention

Number						Criteria
AVC	1					C-Class & PNGV-Class - Common Parts
AVC	2					C-Class (only) - Unique Parts
AVC	3					PNGV-Class (only) - Unique Parts
AVC		1				Body Structure
AVC		2				Closure Structure
AVC		3				Glass / Hardware
AVC		4				Front End Modules / Fascias / Interior Trim Etc.
AVC		5				Package
AVC		6				Structure Weld Assembly
AVC		7				Typical Sections
AVC			X	X	X	000 to 999 Sub-Category Numbers
AVC			X	X	X	Exploded View Part Identification

The number of parts has been minimized in both vehicle variants due to the extensive utilization of advanced high strength steel materials and manufacturing technologies and joining processes, such as tailor welded blanks, hydroforming and laser welding.

Figure 6.2-6 Exploded view C-Class body structure



Figure 6.2-7 Exploded view PNGV-Class body structure

Table 6.2-2 ULSAB-AVC body structure parts list (C-Class and PNGV-Class)

Revision Level: A21 Date: 27 JUL 01

Number	Name	Revision Level	Date	Blank No.	Gage (mm)	Material Type	Grade (MPa)		Manuf. Process Code	Designed For
							Yield Strength	Tensile Strength		C-Class
AVC 1 1008	Cowl Front	D03	05-Mar-01		0.80	DP	500	800	S	4.416
AVC 1 1015	Dash	C15	22-Mar-01		0.65	DP	280	600	S	4.381
AVC 1 1045	Header Front	E01	09-Mar-01		0.70	IF	300	420	S	0.686
AVC 1 1064	Support Header Front RH	D00	06-Jan-01		0.70	DP	280	600	S	0.231
AVC 1 1065	Support Header Front LH	D00	06-Jan-01		0.70	DP	280	600	S	0.231
AVC 1 1075	Crossmember Back Panel	C00	24-Oct-00		0.65	DP	280	600	S	0.832
AVC 1 1082	Crossmember Kick-Up	E04	27-Feb-01		0.70	DP	700	1000	S	2.002
AVC 1 1083	Crossmember Tunnel	B00	17-Aug-00		0.70	HSLA	350	450	S	0.602
AVC 1 1088	Bulkhead Crash Box Dash RH	D01	04-Dec-00		1.20	DP	700	1000	S	2.376
AVC 1 1089	Bulkhead Crash Box Dash LH	D01	04-Dec-00		1.20	DP	700	1000	S	2.376
AVC 1 1116	Assy Reinf Rail Rear Suspension Attach RH	B01	21-Jul-00		1.30	DP	500	800	S	0.455
AVC 1 1117	Assy Reinf Rail Rear Suspension Attach LH	B01	21-Jul-00		1.30	DP	500	800	S	0.455
AVC 1 1128	Plate Crash Box Rail Front Attach (x2)	A00	30-Mar-00		3.00	DP	700	1000	S	0.600
AVC 1 1134	Crossmember Support Front Seat Front RH	C03	09-Mar-01		0.70	CP	700	800	S	0.567
AVC 1 1135	Crossmember Support Front Seat Front LH	C03	09-Mar-01		0.70	CP	700	800	S	0.567
AVC 1 1136	Closeout Lower Crash Box Dash RH	C00	05-Dec-00		0.90	DP	500	800	S	1.161
AVC 1 1137	Closeout Lower Crash Box Dash LH	C00	05-Dec-00		0.90	DP	500	800	S	1.161
AVC 1 1138	Closeout Inner Crash Box Dash RH	A05	20-Oct-00		0.80	DP	400	700	S	1.072
AVC 1 1139	Closeout Inner Crash Box Dash LH	A05	20-Oct-00		0.80	DP	400	700	S	1.040
AVC 1 1146	A-Post Inner RH	A06	11-Apr-01		0.90	DP	700	1000	S	1.152
AVC 1 1147	A-Post Inner LH	A06	11-Apr-01		0.90	DP	700	1000	S	1.152
AVC 1 1153	Crossmember Rear Suspension	D01	19-Feb-01		1.00	DP	700	1000	S	2.640
AVC 1 1168	Reinf Rail Rear Spring Attach RH	B01	03-Feb-01		1.20	HSLA	350	450	S	0.144
AVC 1 1169	Reinf Rail Rear Spring Attach LH	B01	03-Feb-01		1.20	HSLA	350	450	S	0.144
AVC 1 1182	Reinf Rail Rear Suspension C-Member RH	B01	16-Feb-01		1.50	HSLA	350	450	S	0.765
AVC 1 1183	Reinf Rail Rear Suspension C-Member LH	B01	16-Feb-01		1.50	HSLA	350	450	S	0.765
AVC 1 1190	Bracket Support Front Seat Rear (x2)	B01	06-Dec-00		1.20	DP	500	800	S	0.576
AVC 1 1192	Reinf Crash Box Dash RH	A03	25-Jan-01		1.00	DP	400	700	S	1.170
AVC 1 1193	Reinf Crash Box Dash LH	A03	25-Jan-01		1.00	DP	400	700	S	1.170
AVC 1 1194	Reinf Tunnel	C03	05-Mar-01		0.70	Mart	950	1200	S	2.394
AVC 1 1196	Closeout Outer Crash Box Dash RH	A10	25-Jan-01		0.80	DP	400	700	S	2.344
AVC 1 1197	Closeout Outer Crash Box Dash LH	A10	25-Jan-01		0.80	DP	400	700	S	2.344
AVC 1 1202	Reinf Waist B-Pillar Inner RH	B02	21-Apr-01		1.50	Mart	1250	1520	S	0.885
AVC 1 1203	Reinf Waist B-Pillar Inner LH	B02	21-Apr-01		1.50	Mart	1250	1520	S	0.885
AVC 1 1216	Bracket Member Body Side Inner Att Rear RH	A02	15-Mar-01		1.20	DP	500	800	S	0.396
AVC 1 1217	Bracket Member Body Side Inner Att Rear LH	A02	15-Mar-01		1.20	DP	500	800	S	0.396
AVC 1 1224	Bracket Crossmember Inst Panel Attach RH	A00	27-Feb-01		1.20	HSLA	350	450	S	0.132
AVC 1 1225	Bracket Crossmember Inst Panel Attach LH	A00	27-Feb-01		1.20	HSLA	350	450	S	0.132
AVC 1 1226	A-Brace Cowl Front	A00	05-Mar-01		1.00	DP	500	800	S	0.980
AVC 1 1227	A-Brace Cowl Rear	A01	22-Mar-01		1.00	DP	500	800	S	0.820
AVC 2 1016	Floor Front RH	E01	28-Feb-01		0.65	TRIP	450	800	S	4.219
AVC 2 1017	Floor Front LH	E01	28-Feb-01		0.65	TRIP	450	800	S	4.219
AVC 2 1020	Body Side Outer RH	D05	11-Apr-01		1 1.50 2 0.70 3 1.80	DP BH DP	700 260 700	1000 370 1000	S/TWB	3.645 8.414 3.618
AVC 2 1021	Body Side Outer LH	D05	11-Apr-01		1 1.50 2 0.70 3 1.80	DP BH DP	700 260 700	1000 370 1000	S/TWB	3.645 8.414 3.618
AVC 2 1036	Wheelhouse Inner RH	C11	06-Mar-01		1 0.60 2 1.40 3 1.10	DP DP DP	500 700 700	800 1000 1000	S/TWB	1.320 0.966 0.616
AVC 2 1037	Wheelhouse Inner LH	C11	06-Mar-01		1 0.60 2 1.40 3 1.10	DP DP DP	500 700 700	800 1000 1000	S/TWB	1.320 0.966 0.616
AVC 2 1038	Wheelhouse Outer RH	D04	28-Feb-01		0.60	DP	280	600	S	1.074
AVC 2 1039	Wheelhouse Outer LH	D04	28-Feb-01		0.60	DP	280	600	S	1.092
AVC 2 1046	Roof	D01	03-Feb-01		0.65	DP	300	500	S or HFS	9.464
AVC 2 1049	Tunnel	C07	28-Feb-01		0.65	DP	300	500	S	5.122
AVC 2 1050	Member Rail Front RH	C10	28-Feb-01		1 1.50 2 1.30	DP * DP *	500 500	800 800	HFT/TWT	1.845 6.331
AVC 2 1051	Member Rail Front LH	C10	28-Feb-01		1 1.50 2 1.30	DP * DP *	500 500	800 800	HFT/TWT	1.845 6.331
AVC 2 1069	Floor Rear	B13	08-Mar-01		1 0.60 2 1.10 3 1.10 4 0.70	BH DP DP DP	210 350 350 700	340 600 600 1000	S/TWB	5.838 2.519 2.255 1.988

Table 6.2-2 ULSAB-AVC body structures parts list (continued)

Number			Name	Revision Level	Date	Blank No.	Gage (mm)	Material Type	Grade (MPa)		Manuf. Process Code	Designed Mass (kg)	
									Yield Strength	Tensile Strength		C-Class	PNGV-Class
AVC	2	1070	Gutter C-Pillar RH	C01	03-Feb-01		0.65	BH	210	340	S	0.403	
AVC	2	1071	Gutter C-Pillar LH	C01	03-Feb-01		0.65	BH	210	340	S	0.403	
AVC	2	1072	C-Pillar Inner RH	C04	06-Mar-01		0.65	DP	500	800	S	0.774	
AVC	2	1073	C-Pillar Inner LH	C04	06-Mar-01		0.65	DP	500	800	S	0.774	
AVC	2	1074	Back Panel	D00	12-Jan-01		0.60	DP	300	500	S	2.532	
AVC	2	1076	Rail Rear RH	B08	02-Feb-01	1	1.80	DP	700	1000	S/TWB	3.168	
						2	1.10	DP	500	800		0.737	
AVC	2	1077	Rail Rear LH	B08	02-Feb-01	1	1.80	DP	700	1000	S/TWB	3.168	
						2	1.10	DP	500	800		0.737	
AVC	2	1080	Body Side Inner Rear RH	C02	10-Feb-01		0.70	IF	300	420	S	2.541	
AVC	2	1081	Body Side Inner Rear LH	C02	10-Feb-01		0.70	IF	300	420	S	2.541	
AVC	2	1086	Rocker Inner RH	B14	11-Apr-01	1	1.50	DP	700	1000	S/TWB	1.815	
						2	0.70	DP	700	1000		2.345	
AVC	2	1087	Rocker Inner LH	B14	11-Apr-01	1	1.50	DP	700	1000	S/TWB	1.815	
						2	0.70	DP	700	1000		2.345	
AVC	2	1115	Header Rear	E04	22-Mar-01		0.65	DP	350	600	S	1.807	
AVC	2	1132	Member Body Side Inner RH	B03	19-Feb-01		1.00	DP *	500	800	HFT	7.120	
AVC	2	1133	Member Body Side Inner LH	B03	19-Feb-01		1.00	DP *	500	800	HFT	7.120	
AVC	2	1154	B-Pillar Inner RH	B03	07-Mar-01		0.70	Mart	950	1200	S	1.610	
AVC	2	1155	B-Pillar Inner LH	B03	07-Mar-01		0.70	Mart	950	1200	S	1.610	
AVC	2	1188	Rail Rear Outer Floor Extension RH	A00	12-Jan-01		1.10	DP	500	800	S	0.319	
AVC	2	1189	Rail Rear Outer Floor Extension LH	A00	12-Jan-01		1.10	DP	500	800	S	0.319	
AVC	2	1214	Support Back Panel	B00	11-Jan-01		0.60	DP	300	500	S	1.020	
AVC	2	1215	Extension C-Member Kick-Up (x2)	A00	08-Mar-01		1.20	Mart*	950	1200	ST	0.480	
AVC	2	1218	Reinf B-Pillar Lower RH	A02	08-Mar-01		0.70	DP	700	1000	S	0.595	
AVC	2	1219	Reinf B-Pillar Lower LH	A02	08-Feb-01		0.70	DP	700	1000	S	0.595	
AVC	2	1220	Reinf B-Pillar Rocker Rear RH	A05	08-Mar-01	1	1.20	DP	700	1000	S/TWB	3.216	
						2	1.40	DP	700	1000		2.184	
AVC	2	1221	Reinf B-Pillar Rocker Rear LH	A05	08-Mar-01	1	1.20	DP	700	1000	S/TWB	3.216	
						2	1.40	DP	700	1000		2.184	
AVC	2	1228	Crossmember Roof	A00	07-Mar-01		0.70	DP	700	1000	S	0.490	
AVC	2	1232	Reinf Waist B-Pillar Outer RH	A00	25-Apr-01		0.80	DP	700	1000	S	0.104	
AVC	2	1233	Reinf Waist B-Pillar Outer LH	A00	25-Apr-01		0.80	DP	700	1000	S	0.104	
AVC	3	1016	Floor Front RH	E01	28-Feb-01		0.65	TRIP	450	800	S		4.459
AVC	3	1017	Floor Front LH	E01	28-Feb-01		0.65	TRIP	450	800	S		4.459
AVC	3	1036	Wheelhouse Inner RH	C10	06-Mar-01	1	0.60	DP	500	800	S/TWB		1.356
						2	1.40	DP	700	1000			0.966
						3	1.10	DP	700	1000			0.660
AVC	3	1037	Wheelhouse Inner LH	C10	06-Mar-01	1	0.60	DP	500	800	S/TWB		1.356
						2	1.40	DP	700	1000			0.966
						3	1.10	DP	700	1000			0.660
AVC	3	1038	Wheelhouse Outer RH	D03	28-Feb-01		0.60	DP	280	600	S		1.134
AVC	3	1039	Wheelhouse Outer LH	D03	28-Feb-01		0.60	DP	280	600	S		1.146
AVC	3	1049	Tunnel	C07	28-Feb-01		0.65	DP	300	500	S		5.252
AVC	3	1050	Member Rail Front RH	C10	28-Feb-01	1	1.50	DP *	500	800	HFT/TWT		1.845
						2	1.30	DP *	500	800			6.604
AVC	3	1051	Member Rail Front LH	C10	28-Feb-01	1	1.50	DP *	500	800	HFT/TWT		1.845
						2	1.30	DP *	500	800			6.604
AVC	3	1069	Floor Rear	B10	08-Mar-01	1	0.60	BH	210	340	S/TWB		7.932
						2	1.10	DP	350	600			3.135
						3	1.10	DP	350	600			2.882
						4	0.70	DP	700	1000			2.002
AVC	3	1074	Back Panel	D00	04-Jan-01		0.60	DP	300	500	S		2.172
AVC	3	1076	Rail Rear RH	B08	02-Feb-01	1	1.80	DP	700	1000	S/TWB		3.168
						2	1.10	DP	500	800			1.408
AVC	3	1077	Rail Rear LH	B08	02-Feb-01	1	1.80	DP	700	1000	S/TWB		3.168
						2	1.10	DP	500	800			1.408
AVC	3	1124	Support Header Rear RH	E00	03-Jan-01		0.70	IF	300	420	S		0.336
AVC	3	1125	Support Header Rear LH	E00	03-Jan-01		0.70	IF	300	420	S		0.336
AVC	3	1126	Header Rear	E00	03-Jan-01		0.70	IF	300	420	S		0.938
AVC	3	1127	Roof	D00	06-Jan-01		0.65	DP	300	500	S or HFS		8.905
AVC	3	1130	Member Body Side Inner RH	B03	19-Feb-01		1.00	DP *	500	800	HFT		7.070
AVC	3	1131	Member Body Side Inner LH	B03	19-Feb-01		1.00	DP *	500	800	HFT		7.070
AVC	3	1156	Package Tray Upper	C02	08-Jan-01		0.60	DP	280	600	S		2.316
AVC	3	1157	Package Tray Lower	C00	22-Dec-00		0.60	DP	280	600	S		2.208

Table 6.2-2 ULSAB-AVC body structures parts list (continued)

Number			Name	Revision Level	Date	Blank No.	Gage (mm)	Material Type	Grade (MPa)		Manuf. Process Code	Designed Mass (kg)	
									Yield Strength	Tensile Strength		C-Class	PNGV-Class
AVC	3	1162	Rocker Inner RH	A12	11-Apr-01	1	1.50	DP	700	1000	S/TWB		1.815
						2	0.70	DP	700	1000			2.527
AVC	3	1163	Rocker Inner LH	A12	11-Apr-01	1	1.50	DP	700	1000	S/TWB		1.815
						2	0.70	DP	700	1000			2.527
AVC	3	1170	Body Side Outer RH	B05	10-Apr-01	1	1.50	DP	700	1000	S/TWB		3.645
						2	0.70	BH	260	370			0.280
						3	1.80	DP	700	1000			9.108
						4	1.20	DP	700	1000			2.148
						5	0.70	BH	260	370			5.649
AVC	3	1171	Body Side Outer LH	B05	10-Apr-01	1	1.50	DP	700	1000	S/TWB		3.645
						2	0.70	BH	260	370			0.280
						3	1.80	DP	700	1000			9.108
						4	1.20	DP	700	1000			2.148
						5	0.70	BH	260	370			5.712
AVC	3	1172	Body Side Inner Rear RH	B03	08-Mar-01		0.70	IF	300	420	S		2.555
AVC	3	1173	Body Side Inner Rear LH	B03	08-Mar-01		0.70	IF	300	420	S		2.555
AVC	3	1178	Gutter Deck Lid RH	B01	04-Jan-01		0.70	BH	260	370	S		0.385
AVC	3	1179	Gutter Deck Lid LH	B01	04-Jan-01		0.70	BH	260	370	S		0.385
AVC	3	1188	Rail Rear Outer Floor Extension RH	B03	06-Jan-01	1	1.10	DP	500	800	S/TWB		0.913
						2	0.60	BH	210	340			0.378
AVC	3	1189	Rail Rear Outer Floor Extension LH	B03	06-Jan-01	1	1.10	DP	500	800	S/TWB		0.913
						2	0.60	BH	210	340			0.378
AVC	3	1201	Crossmember Package Tray	B00	22-Dec-00		1.00	DP *	280	600	ST		2.540
AVC	3	1208	B-Pillar Inner RH	B01	11-Apr-01		0.70	Mart	950	1200	S		1.491
AVC	3	1209	B-Pillar Inner LH	B01	11-Apr-01		0.70	Mart	950	1200	S		1.491
AVC	3	1212	Extension C-Member Supt Front Seat Rr (x2)	A01	05-Jan-01		1.20	Mart*	950	1200	ST		0.456
AVC	3	1214	Support Back Panel	A01	04-Jan-01		0.60	DP	300	500	S		1.068
AVC	3	1222	Reinf B-Pillar Lower RH	B01	06-Jan-01		1.00	DP	700	1000	S		1.430
AVC	3	1223	Reinf B-Pillar Lower LH	B01	06-Jan-01		1.00	DP	700	1000	S		1.430
AVC	3	1230	Reinf Waist B-Pillar Outer RH	A00	25-Apr-01		0.80	DP	700	1000	S		0.120
AVC	3	1231	Reinf Waist B-Pillar Outer LH	A00	25-Apr-01		0.80	DP	700	1000	S		0.120
AVC	-	1900	Brackets, Reinforcements and Hinges NOT Designed								Misc	3.746	5.042
TOTAL												201.776	218.124

Code	Manufacturing Process
S	Stamped
S/TWB	Stamped / Tailor Welded Blanks
HFT	Hydroformed Tube
HFT/TWT	Hydroformed Tube / Tailor Welded Tubes
S or HFS	Stamped or Hydroformed Sheet
ST	Straight or Shaped Tube
Misc	Miscellaneous

* denotes Tube

Code	Steel Types
BH	Bake Hardenable
CP	Complex Phase
DP	Dual Phase
HSLA	High Strength, Low Alloy
IF	Interstitial-Free
Mart	Martensitic
TRIP	Transformation-Induced Plasticity

6.2.1. Common Parts

Figure 6.2.1-1 illustrates the common parts for both ULSAB-AVC vehicle structures in an exploded view. Figure 6.2.1-2 shows the common parts and their relative locations, shown for the C-Class vehicle and listed in Table 6.2.1-1.

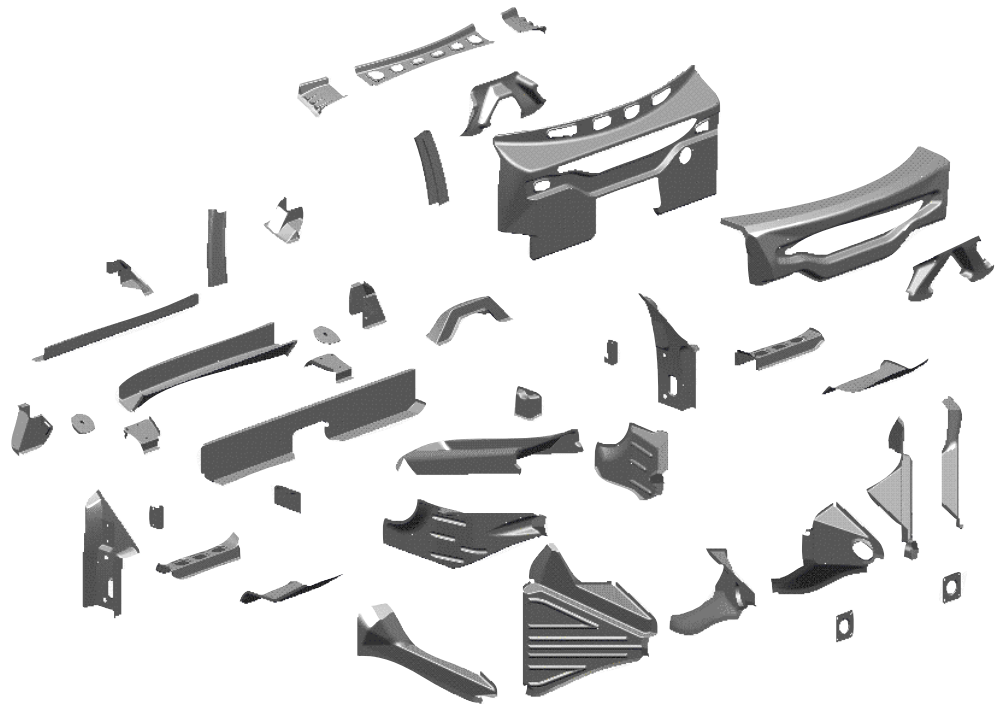


Figure 6.2.1-1 ULSAB-AVC common parts (C-Class & PNGV-Class) exploded view

The two rear end structures share several essential common sub-structures or joints that have evolved through intense development. The entire kick-up structure inboard of the rocker inner panels is identical, although 85-mm different in longitudinal body position. The kick-up crossmember panel (AVC# 11082) is common for both vehicle variants.

Using the same rear suspension system has resulted in common joints and parts in the rear rail environment, as a result of the identical suspension trailing arm, spring, and shock absorber attachments. The suspension crossmember is identical for both variants.

The upper structure incorporates several common parts. These include the front header panel, two support panels, and two B-pillar inner reinforcements.

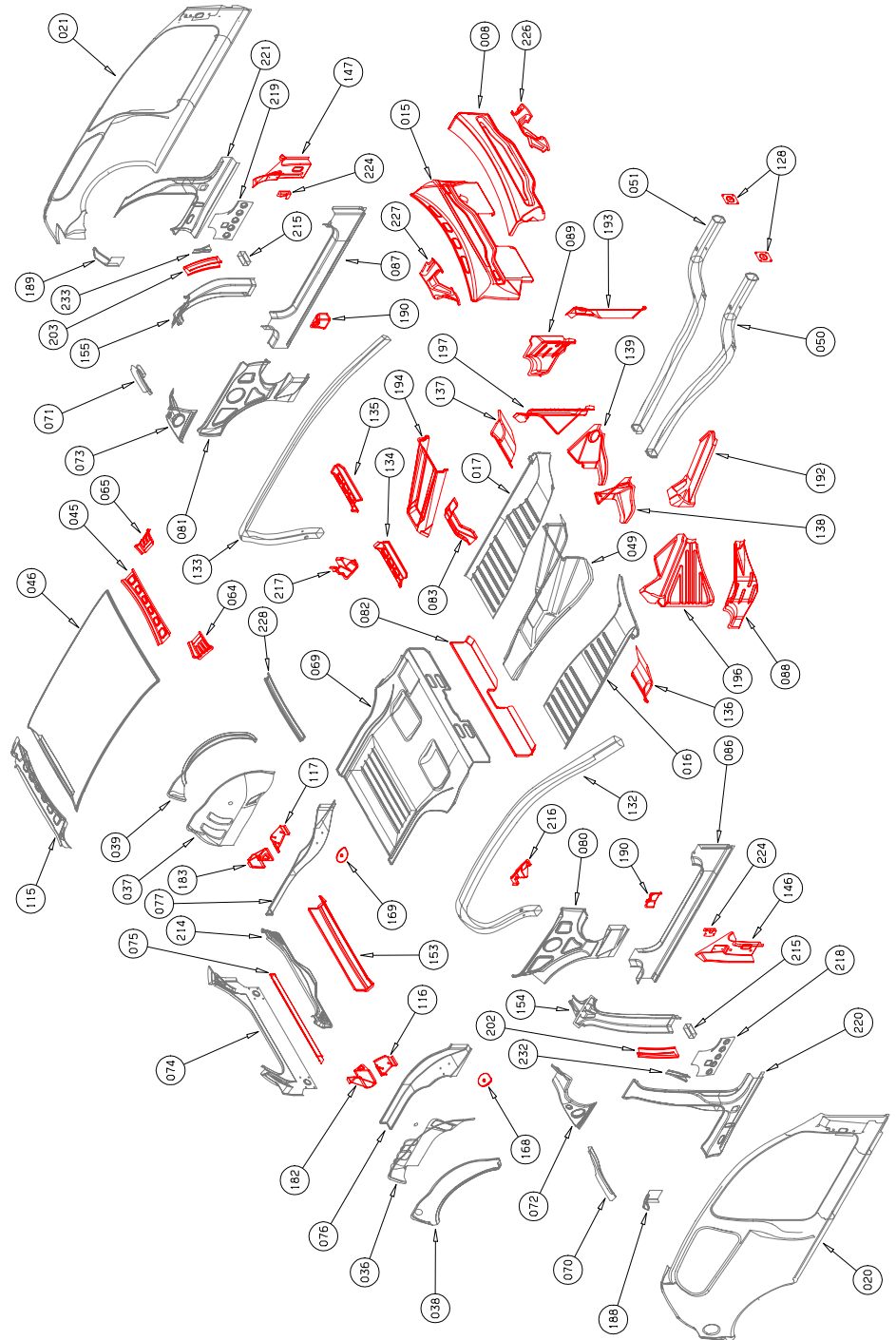


Figure 6.2.1-2 Exploded view of common parts

Table 6.2.1-1 ULSAB-AVC body structure common parts list (C-Class & PNGV-Class)

Number	Name	Revision Level	Date	Blank No.	Gage (mm)	Material Type	Grade (MPa)		Manuf. Process Code	Designed Mass (kg)	
							Yield Strength	Tensile Strength		C-Class	PNGV-Class
AVC 1 1008	Cowl Front	D03	05-Mar-01		0.80	DP	500	800	S	4.416	4.416
AVC 1 1015	Dash	C15	22-Mar-01		0.65	DP	280	600	S	4.381	4.381
AVC 1 1045	Header Front	E01	09-Mar-01		0.70	IF	300	420	S	0.686	0.686
AVC 1 1064	Support Header Front RH	D00	06-Jan-01		0.70	DP	280	600	S	0.231	0.231
AVC 1 1065	Support Header Front LH	D00	06-Jan-01		0.70	DP	280	600	S	0.231	0.231
AVC 1 1075	Crossmember Back Panel	C00	24-Oct-00		0.65	DP	280	600	S	0.832	0.832
AVC 1 1082	Crossmember Kick-Up	E04	27-Feb-01		0.70	DP	700	1000	S	2.002	2.002
AVC 1 1083	Crossmember Tunnel	B00	17-Aug-00		0.70	HSLA	350	450	S	0.602	0.602
AVC 1 1088	Bulkhead Crash Box Dash RH	D01	04-Dec-00		1.20	DP	700	1000	S	2.376	2.376
AVC 1 1089	Bulkhead Crash Box Dash LH	D01	04-Dec-00		1.20	DP	700	1000	S	2.376	2.376
AVC 1 1116	Assy Reinf Rail Rear Suspension Attach RH	B01	21-Jul-00		1.30	DP	500	800	S	0.455	0.455
AVC 1 1117	Assy Reinf Rail Rear Suspension Attach LH	B01	21-Jul-00		1.30	DP	500	800	S	0.455	0.455
AVC 1 1128	Plate Crash Box Rail Front Attach (x2)	A00	30-Mar-00		3.00	DP	700	1000	S	0.600	0.600
AVC 1 1134	Crossmember Support Front Seat Front RH	C03	09-Mar-01		0.70	CP	700	800	S	0.567	0.567
AVC 1 1135	Crossmember Support Front Seat Front LH	C03	09-Mar-01		0.70	CP	700	800	S	0.567	0.567
AVC 1 1136	Closeout Lower Crash Box Dash RH	C00	05-Dec-00		0.90	DP	500	800	S	1.161	1.161
AVC 1 1137	Closeout Lower Crash Box Dash LH	C00	05-Dec-00		0.90	DP	500	800	S	1.161	1.161
AVC 1 1138	Closeout Inner Crash Box Dash RH	A05	20-Oct-00		0.80	DP	400	700	S	1.072	1.072
AVC 1 1139	Closeout Inner Crash Box Dash LH	A05	20-Oct-00		0.80	DP	400	700	S	1.040	1.040
AVC 1 1146	A-Post Inner RH	A06	11-Apr-01		0.90	DP	700	1000	S	1.152	1.152
AVC 1 1147	A-Post Inner LH	A06	11-Apr-01		0.90	DP	700	1000	S	1.152	1.152
AVC 1 1153	Crossmember Rear Suspension	D01	19-Feb-01		1.00	DP	700	1000	S	2.640	2.640
AVC 1 1168	Reinf Rail Rear Spring Attach RH	B01	03-Feb-01		1.20	HSLA	350	450	S	0.144	0.144
AVC 1 1169	Reinf Rail Rear Spring Attach LH	B01	03-Feb-01		1.20	HSLA	350	450	S	0.144	0.144
AVC 1 1182	Reinf Rail Rear Suspension C-Member RH	B01	16-Feb-01		1.50	HSLA	350	450	S	0.765	0.765
AVC 1 1183	Reinf Rail Rear Suspension C-Member LH	B01	16-Feb-01		1.50	HSLA	350	450	S	0.765	0.765
AVC 1 1190	Bracket Support Front Seat Rear (x2)	B01	06-Dec-00		1.20	DP	500	800	S	0.576	0.576
AVC 1 1192	Reinf Crash Box Dash RH	A03	25-Jan-01		1.00	DP	400	700	S	1.170	1.170
AVC 1 1193	Reinf Crash Box Dash LH	A03	25-Jan-01		1.00	DP	400	700	S	1.170	1.170
AVC 1 1194	Reinf Tunnel	C03	05-Mar-01		0.70	Mart	950	1200	S	2.394	2.394
AVC 1 1196	Closeout Outer Crash Box Dash RH	A10	25-Jan-01		0.80	DP	400	700	S	2.344	2.344
AVC 1 1197	Closeout Outer Crash Box Dash LH	A10	25-Jan-01		0.80	DP	400	700	S	2.344	2.344
AVC 1 1202	Reinf Waist B-Pillar Inner RH	B02	21-Apr-01		1.50	Mart	1250	1520	S	0.885	0.885
AVC 1 1203	Reinf Waist B-Pillar Inner LH	B02	21-Apr-01		1.50	Mart	1250	1520	S	0.885	0.885
AVC 1 1216	Bracket Member Body Side Inner Att Rear RH	A02	15-Mar-01		1.20	DP	500	800	S	0.396	0.396
AVC 1 1217	Bracket Member Body Side Inner Att Rear LH	A02	15-Mar-01		1.20	DP	500	800	S	0.396	0.396
AVC 1 1224	Bracket Crossmember Inst Panel Attach RH	A00	27-Feb-01		1.20	HSLA	350	450	S	0.132	0.132
AVC 1 1225	Bracket Crossmember Inst Panel Attach LH	A00	27-Feb-01		1.20	HSLA	350	450	S	0.132	0.132
AVC 1 1226	A-Brace Cowl Front	A00	05-Mar-01		1.00	DP	500	800	S	0.980	0.980
AVC 1 1227	A-Brace Cowl Rear	A01	22-Mar-01		1.00	DP	500	800	S	0.820	0.820

The percentage of common parts by the body structure mass are 23% and 21% for the C-Class and PNGV-Class respectively (Figures 6.2.1-3 and 6.2.1-4).

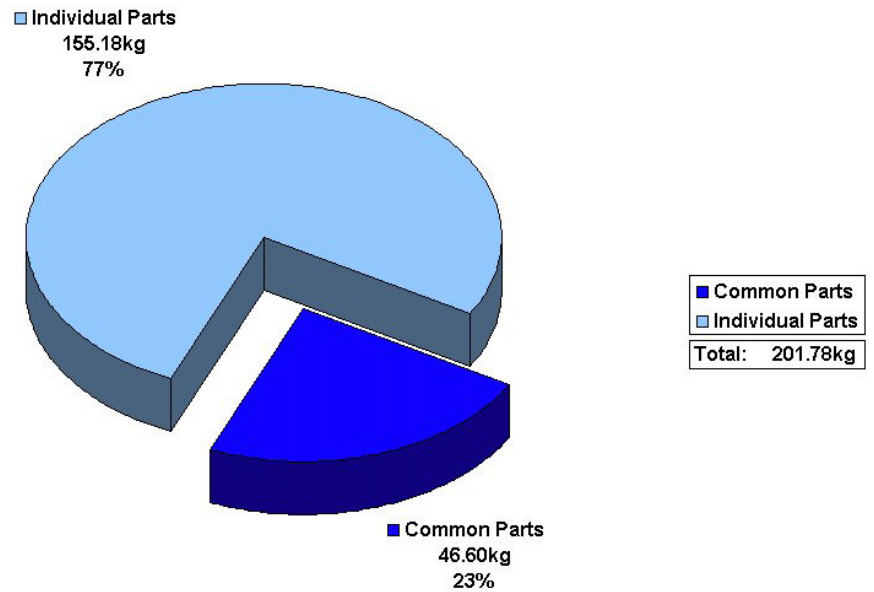


Figure 6.2.1-3 C-Class common parts body structure

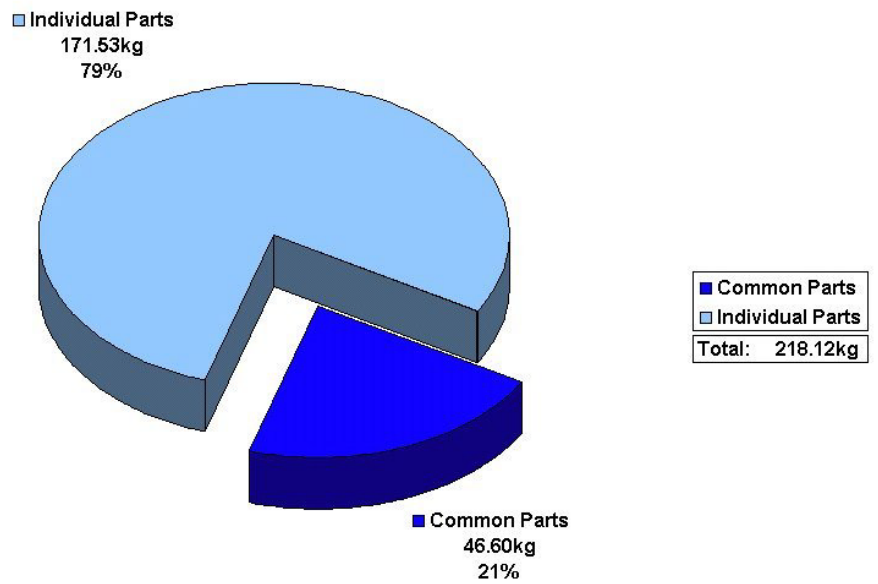


Figure 6.2.1-4 PNGV-Class common parts body structure

6.2.2. Parts Manufactured from Common Dies

Parts manufactured from common dies are defined as parts using the same stamping or hydroforming tool followed by different trim operations to adjust the parts for a difference in size for both vehicle variants. The two large rear floor panels are very similar in design. The PNGV-Class floor is extended by 85 mm at its rear end compared with the C-Class floor. The distance between kick-up and rear axle center is identical, resulting in almost identical parts in this environment. Similarly, the PNGV-Class longitudinal rail is a rear extended version, of the C-Class rail.

Figures 6.2.2-1 show parts with the potential to be manufactured using common dies. Actual verification requires a detailed design phase working together with the tool and die and the part manufacturers. The area of the part, which undergoes different trim operations is indicated (red).

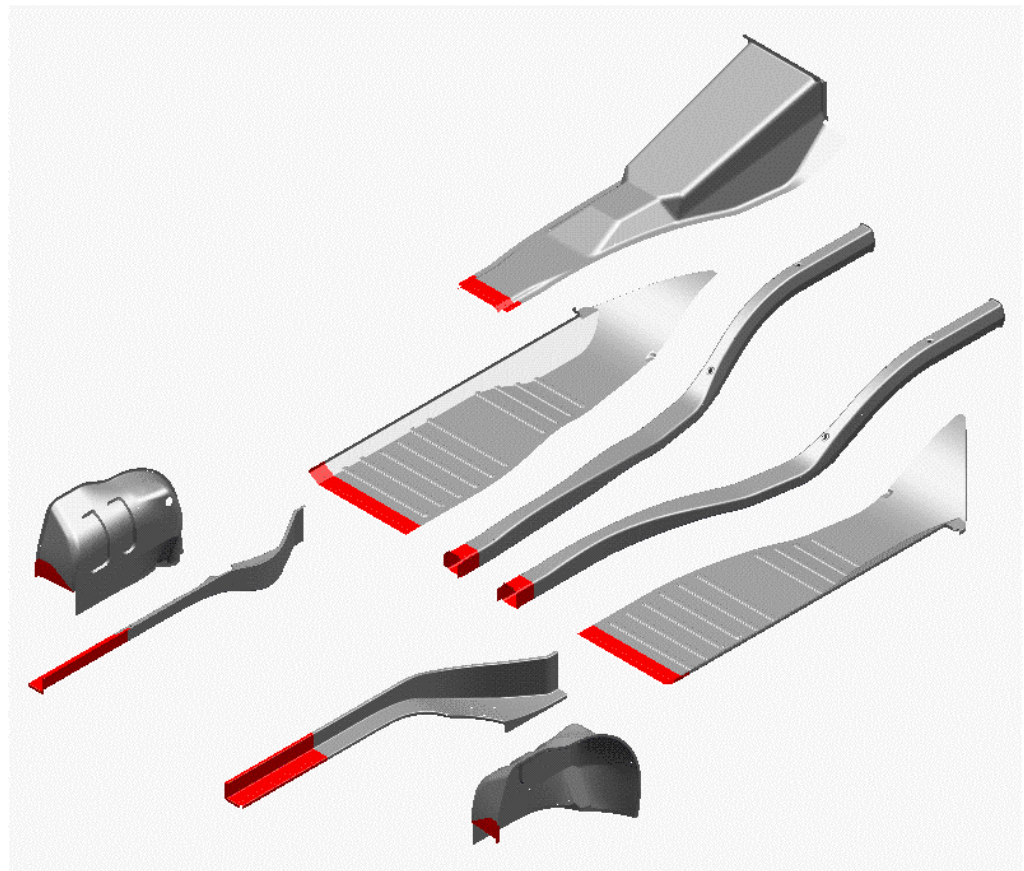


Figure 6.2.2-1 C-Class and PNGV-Class parts from common dies

Although not identical, the wheelhouse inner panels require only one small different trim operation. The tubular hydroformed body side members are laser welded to the wheelhouse inner panels. The tubes terminate above the rear longitudinal rails using a common attachment bracket. At the rear ends, the floor joints result in a common rear crossmember panel.

The results of the common platform approach is summarized for the C-Class in Figure 6.2.2-2 with common parts shown in red and parts manufactured from common dies shown in blue.

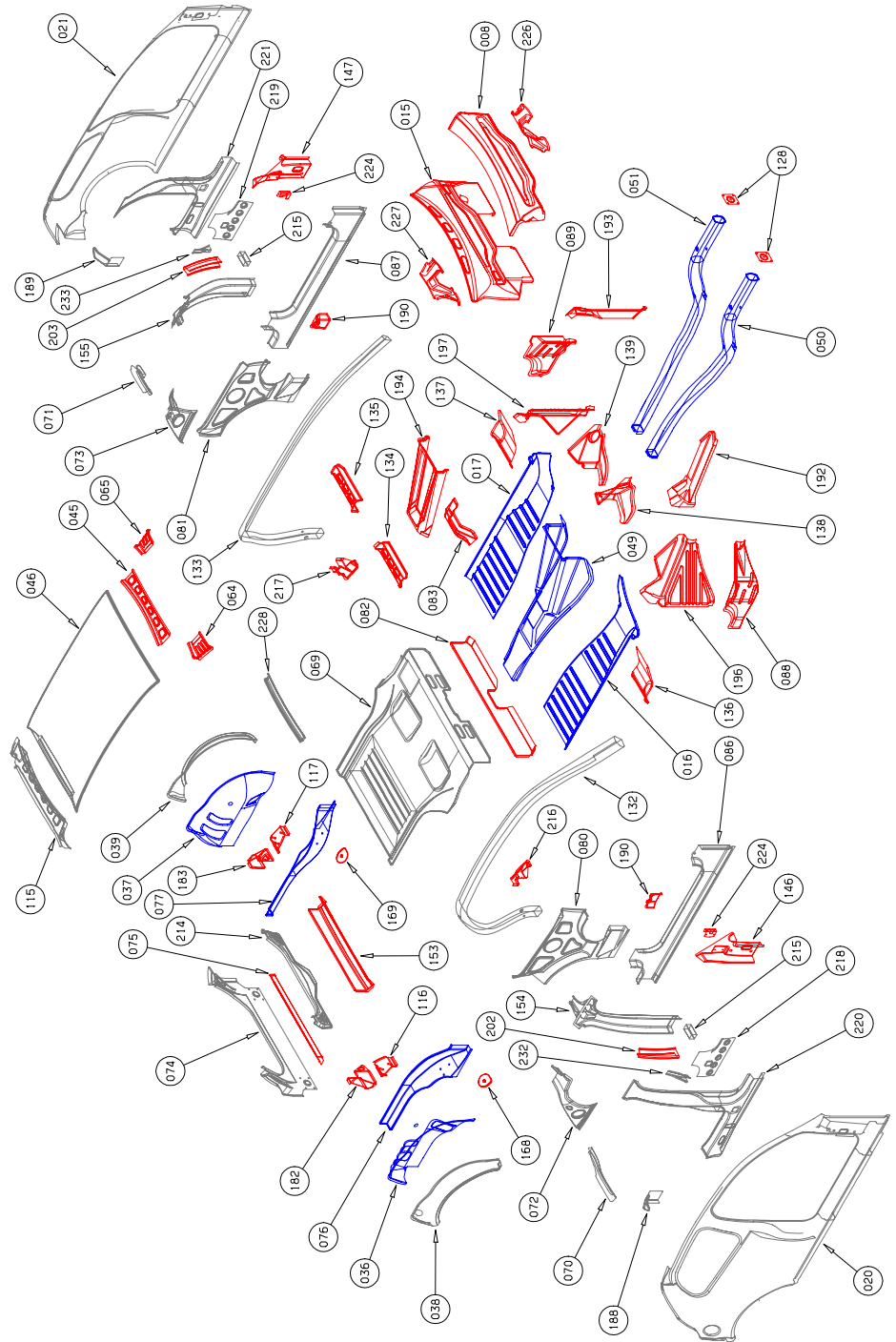


Figure 6.2.2-2 ULSAB-AVC common parts and parts manufactured with common dies (common dies shown in blue, common parts shown in red)

6.3. Front End Structure - C-Class and PNGV-Class

6.3.1. Underbody - Front

Frontal crash energy management is achieved with load distribution into the two tubular longitudinal rails. Each rail is tubular hydroformed from two tailor-welded 100 mm diameter DP 500/800 MPa tubes. The front and rear tube material thicknesses are 1.5 mm / 1.3 mm respectively. Due to the suspension design concept with a transverse leaf spring and a subframe incorporating the upper shock attachment, a front shock tower is not required in the body structure. This eliminates an upper longitudinal load path. Frontal crash loads are transferred through the rails via the bumper beam and crash box. The two crash boxes are designed as two-piece stampings, and absorb energy in case of low speed impact (0 degree, 15km/h frontal impact), and welded to the bumper, which is used for attachment of the front fascia module to the vehicle structure.

The engine/suspension subframe four-point attachment to the front rails and the attachments of the bumper to the rails are shown in Figure 6.3.1-1.

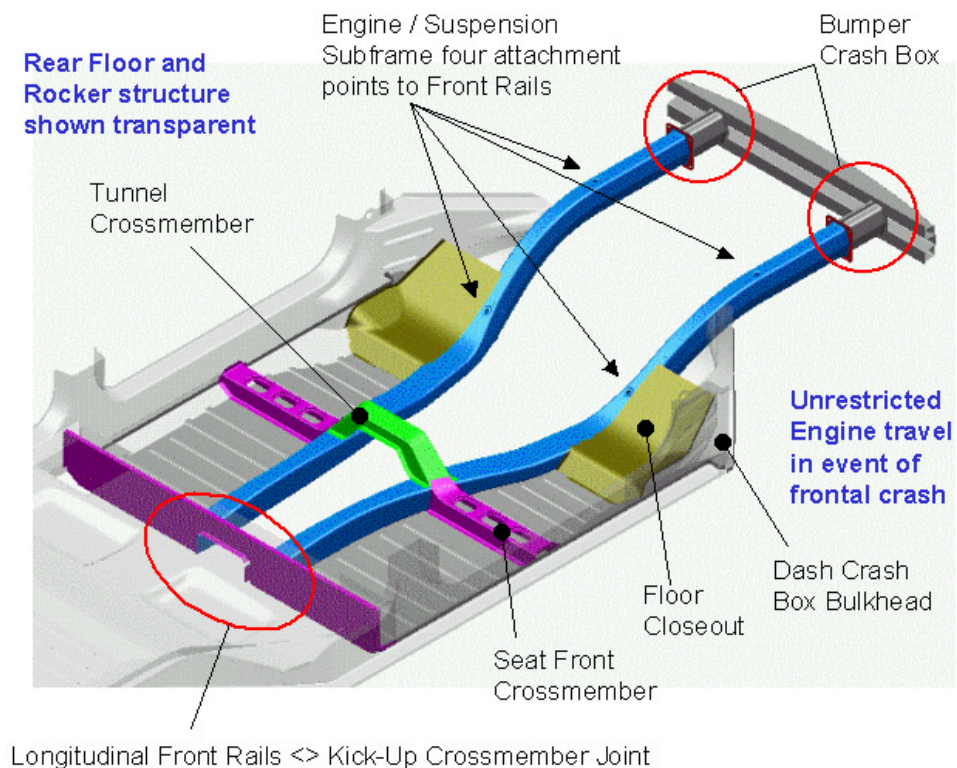


Figure 6.3.1-1 Bumper subframe attachment to rails

Rear of the front subframe attachments, front rail longitudinal loads are transferred to the rocker, a-pillar, upper tunnel, and lower tunnel. In a frontal crash, the subframe rear attachments are designed and positioned to allow movement of the engine inside the tunnel, thereby minimizing cockpit intrusion.

Terminating within the kick-up crossmember box-section, the longitudinal rails represent the backbone of the entire underbody structure. The floor is laser welded to the lower outboard rail surface providing enhanced underbody aerodynamic efficiency. Integrating the front rails and upper tunnel, while forming a cross-car connection between the rocker and front floor crossmember, the tunnel crossmember is an important component within this environment. The tunnel crossmember is also a critical component. Integrating the front rails and upper tunnel reinforcement, it forms a cross-car connection between the two front seat support crossmembers. Figure 6.3.1-2 shows the front floor panel, which is laser welded to the tubular hydroformed longitudinal front rails.

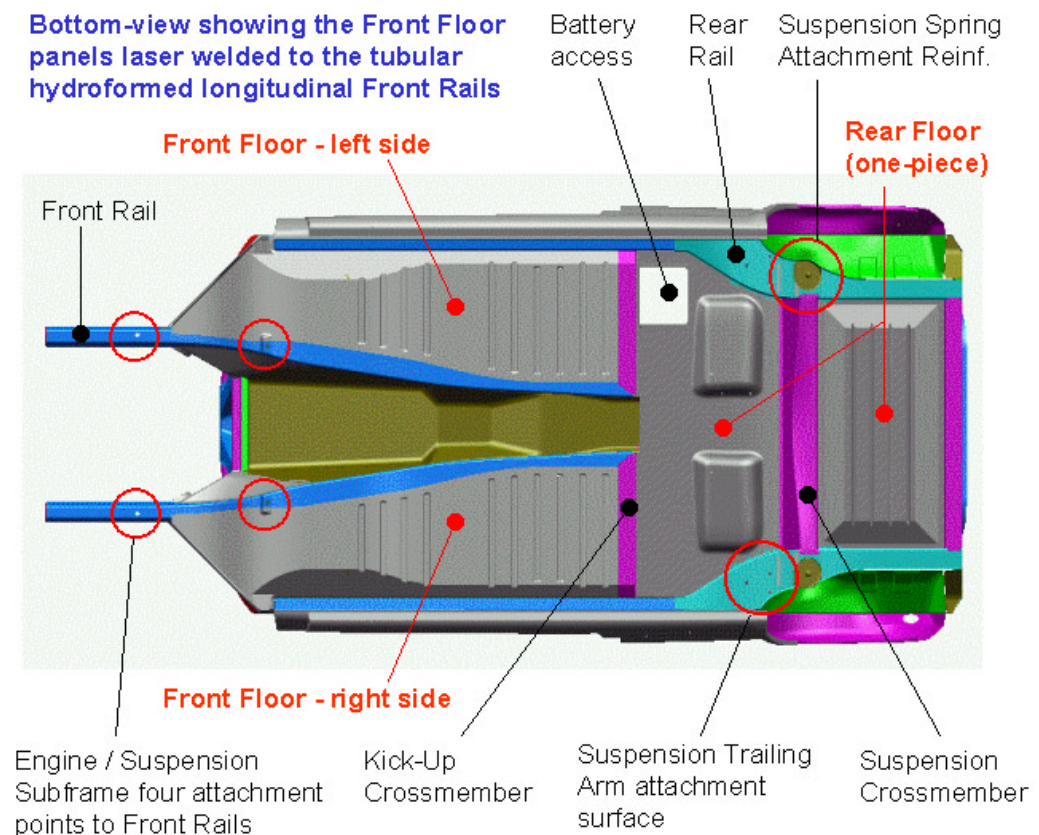


Figure 6.3.1-2 Bottom view of front and rear floor panels

6.3.2. Front End Load Distribution

The front end forward of the A-post has been designed primarily to absorb energy in a frontal crash. The structure achieves a good compromise between the very different and stringent demands imposed by the 100% frontal and 40% offset crash events. Furthermore, it provides a good load path. The dash crash box incorporates an inner lower diagonal bulkhead and lower closeout panel that transfer loads between rail and rocker. It also incorporates an upper diagonal reinforcement for load transfer between rail and A-pillar. Additionally, lateral loads are transferred into the dash crossmember, tunnel and cowl. The front rail to dash crash box joints are two of the most significant joints in the vehicle structure.

Figure 6.3.2-1 shows the common front end structure of both vehicles in front isometric view and in a top view identifying the load distribution from the front rails into the structure. Figure 6.3.2-2 shows the common front end structure in front view. Figure 6.3.2-3 shows it in side view.

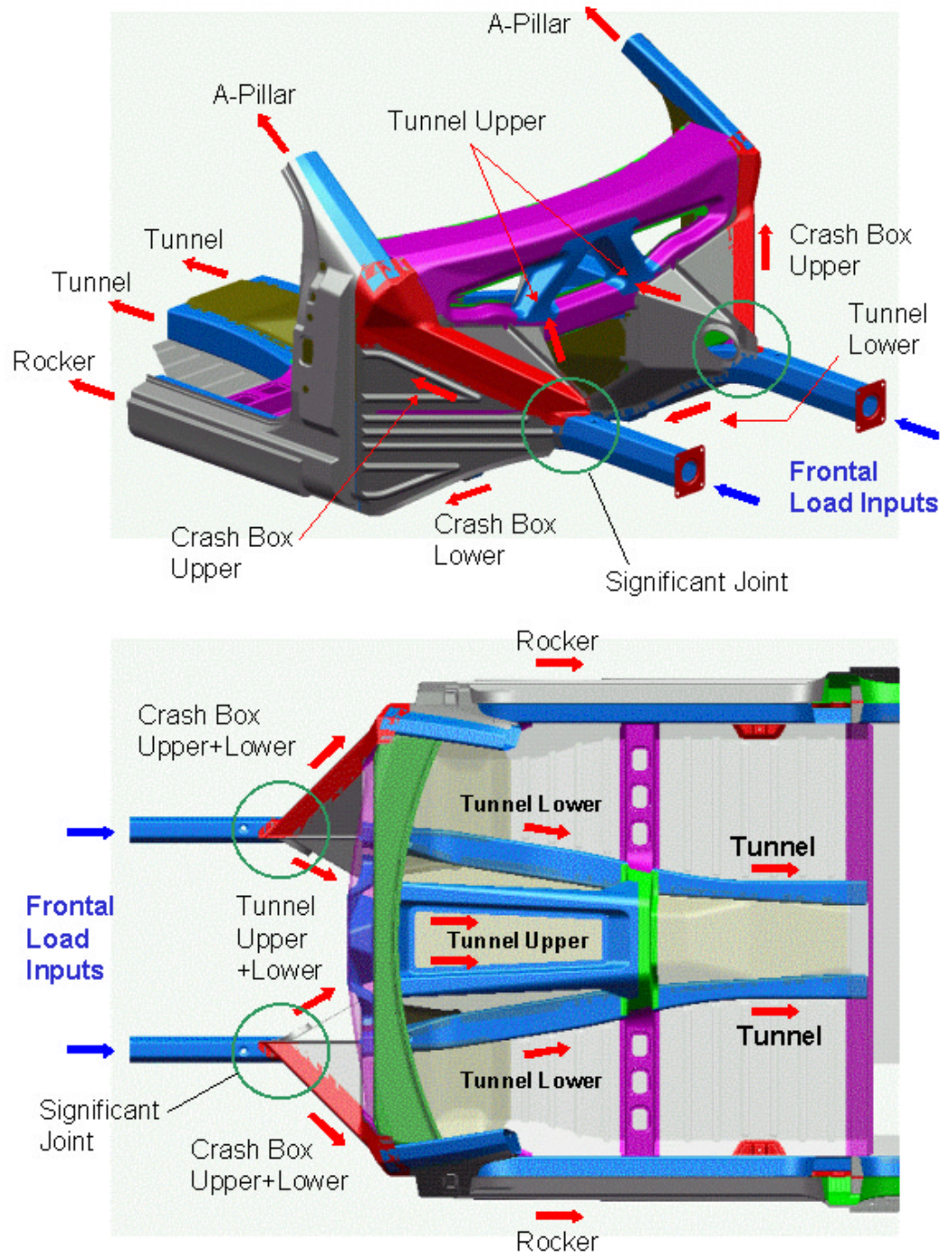


Figure 6.3.2-1 Front load paths

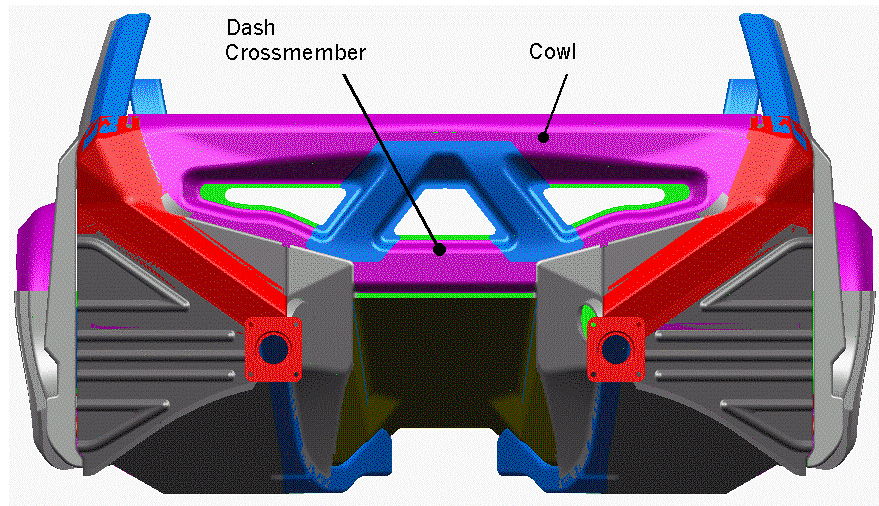


Figure 6.3.2-2 Front end structure front view

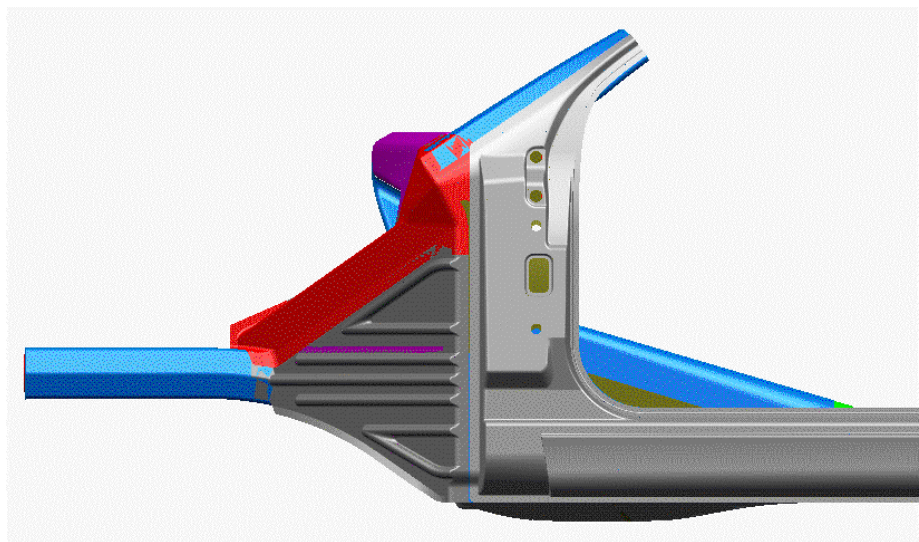
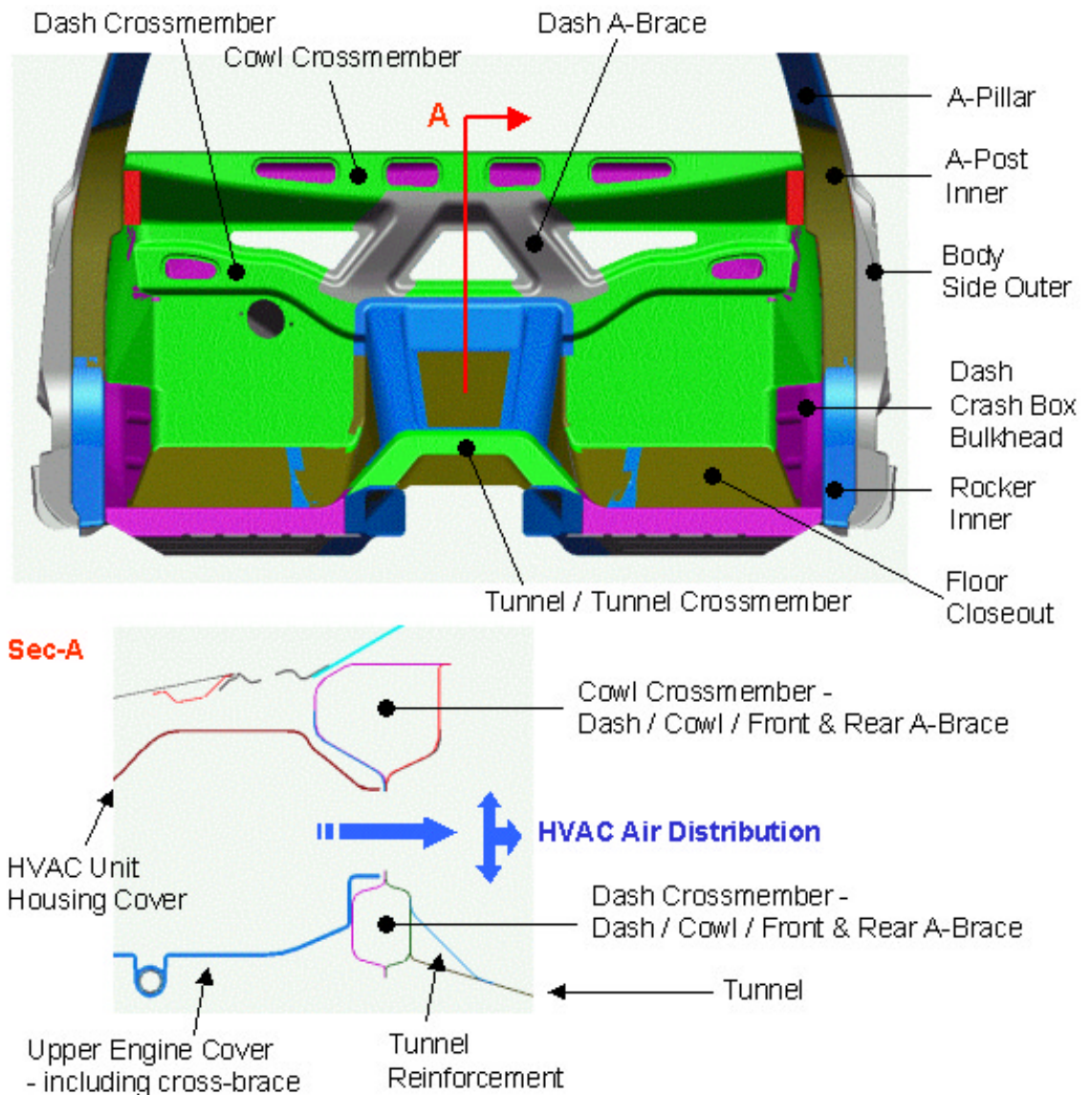


Figure 6.3.2-3 Front-end structure side view

Integrated into the dash and cowl structure are both upper and lower crossmembers, connected by a two-piece stamped A-brace at the center of the vehicle. The lower crossmember and A-brace provide a good foundation for the tunnel and tunnel reinforcement joint. Packaged within the engine cover module (forward of the dash above the engine), is the HVAC unit. This location provides additional package space within the passenger compartment. As shown in Sec-A, Figure 6.3.2-4, air is transferred from the HVAC between the A-brace diagonal structure, to the air distribution unit incorporated within the instrument panel. Additional lateral support is provided by the front floor closeout panel, creating a closed box section rear of the dash panel inboard of the crash box.



6.4 Side Structure

The rocker structure as shown in Figure 6.4-1 for C-Class and 6.4-2 for PNGV-Class is identical forward of the C-Class B-pillar reinforcement and forward of PNGV-Class lower B-pillar reinforcement. To optimize the rocker and A-post sections to reduce part count, and to eliminate unnecessary joints, there are no inner rocker and a-post reinforcements or bulkheads. To compensate, the rocker inner and body side outer panels are manufactured from tailor welded blanks. Furthermore, the door hinges incorporate the hinge stem passing through the A-post, and welded to the A-post inner and body side outer panels.

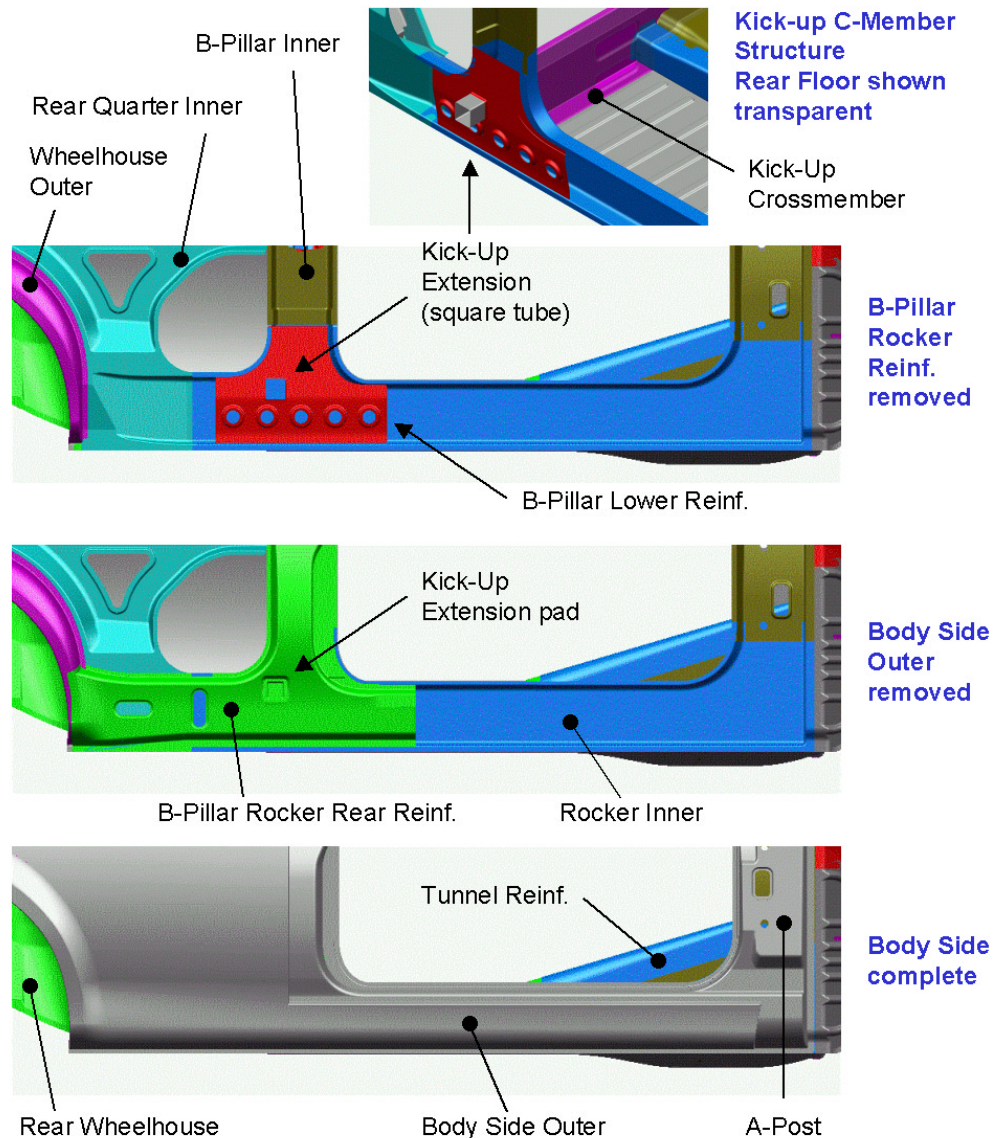


Figure 6.4-1 Rocker with kick-up crossmember C-Class

Between the rocker inner panels, the kick-up crossmember structure is identical for C-Class and PNGV-Class. Nevertheless, due to package criteria, the PNGV-Class kick-up is 85 mm further rearward in vehicle. To maintain the same joint structure for both body variants, the PNGV-Class front rails, front floor and tunnel are extended by 85 mm. The kick-up crossmember incorporates a rectangular closed box section. The rear vertical wall is a single stamped part, whereas the forward vertical wall and top surface is part of the tailor welded four-blank rear floor. The front rails and tunnel pass through the box section, providing weld joints front and rear.

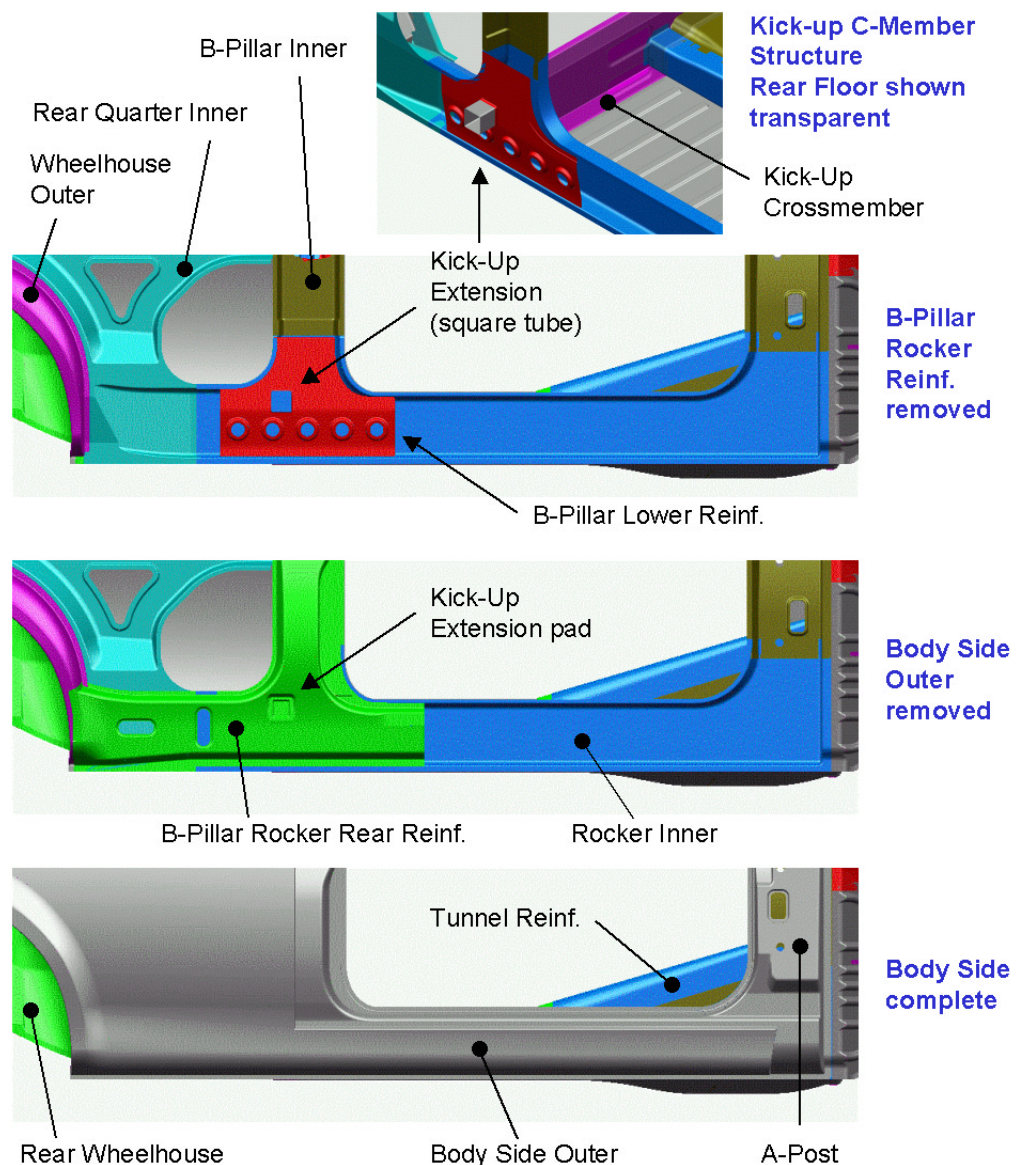


Figure 6.4-2 Rocker with front seat rear crossmember PNGV-Class

6.5. Rear End Structure

6.5.1. C-Class

The rear longitudinal rails consist primarily of three components – rear floor, rear rail and wheelhouse inner. To optimize for body stiffness, crashworthiness, and mass reduction, all three parts are manufactured from tailor welded blanks. The floor panel forms the upper and (upper) inside wall, the rocker panel forms the lower and inside wall, and the wheelhouse panel forms the outer vertical wall of the rear rail.

Unlike the 4-door PNGV-Class rocker that uses the body side outer panel to close the rocker section rear of the b-pillar, the C-Class (no rear door) uses the b-pillar/rocker reinforcement to do this. While maintaining a smooth and consistent transition from rocker to rear rail, the design provides adequate package space for the fuel tank (see Figure 6.5.1-1). The tank is packaged on the right side of vehicle between the kick-up and suspension crossmember. Integrated within the rail section, is the suspension trailing arm attachment reinforcement.

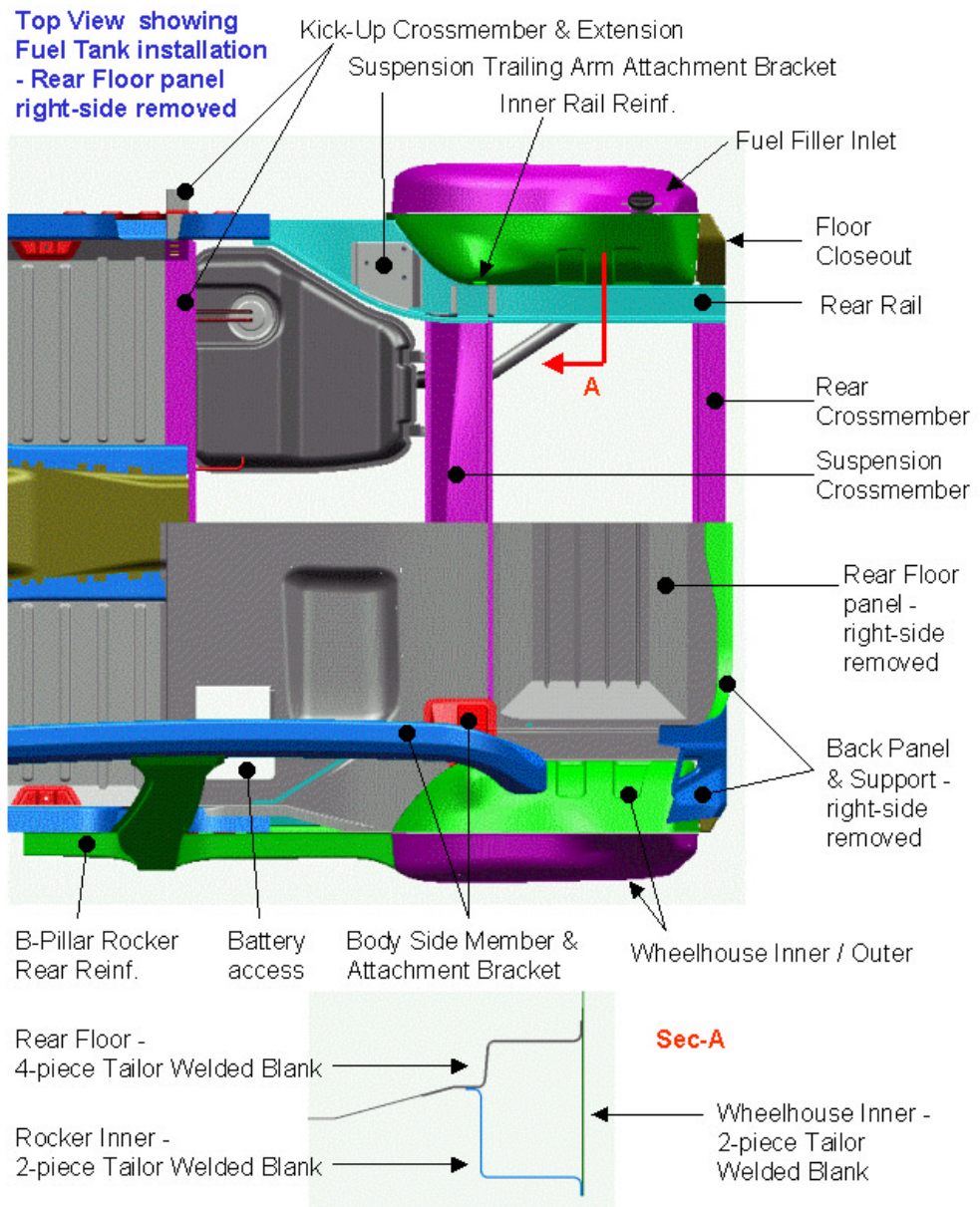


Figure 6.5.1-1 C-Class rear floor structure (top view)

The U-profile suspension crossmember is laser welded to the rear floor, creating a closed box section below the floor. The crossmember creates an important load path between the rails. Furthermore, due to the attachment of the body side member directly above the rail at this connection, this joint is one of the most significant on the entire body structure. Here the suspension spring attachment reinforcement is laser welded to the rail lower surface. Within the joint and rail section, and directly above it, are two important reinforcements.

The inner rail reinforcement is designed to maintain rail section, to provide backup for suspension spring loads, and the body side member attachment bracket reinforces the section from above.

Connecting the rear floor, back panel and rails is the L-profile rear crossmember. Rear crash loads are transferred through the rails via the bumper beam and rear crash box (not shown). Identical in design to the front bumper crash box, but shorter due to different package and crash behavior requirements, the rear bumper crash box is a two-piece stamping used for attachment of the fascia module to the rails and back panel.

Using the same joint and design principles, the kick-up crossmember, suspension crossmember, rear crossmember, and all rear suspension attachment reinforcements are common parts used on both C-Class and PNGV-Class structure.

6.5.2. PNGV-Class

PNGV-Class rear body structure (see Figure 6.5.2-1) employs the same joint and design parameters as the C-Class structure, such as kick-up crossmember, suspension crossmember, rear crossmember, and all rear suspension attachment reinforcements. In principle, the longitudinal rear rails have similar characteristics as C-Class structure, but they are an extended version. The rails consist primarily of three components – rear floor, rear rail and wheelhouse inner - all three components using tailor welded blank technology for optimum rail performance. Both vehicle variants have a rear floor extension, the PNGV-Class extension is considerably longer, and is tailor welded. Separating the wheelhouse from back panel, the floor extension forms the outside vertical wall of the rail section, replacing that of the wheelhouse, and closing off the section.

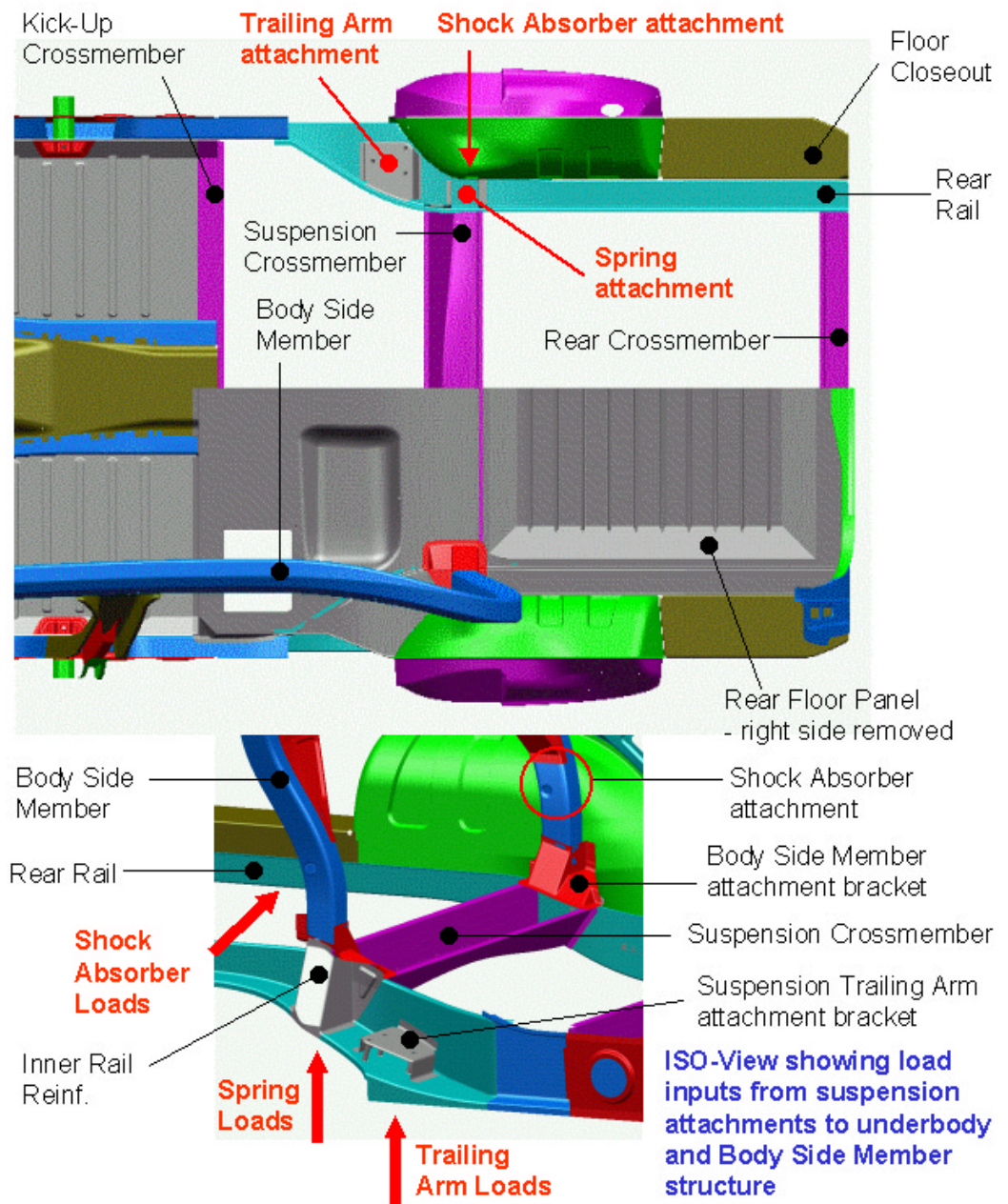


Figure 6.5.2-1 PNGV-Class rear floor structure (top and isometric view)

A vertical wall portion of the quarter inner panel, reinforces the transition from rocker to rear rail, for both structural and manufacturing reasons. It forms a connection between the wheelhouse inner-outer slip plane weld flange and the rocker inner panel. Welded to this inside wall, is the rail inner panel. The front tailor welded blank is manufactured from DP 700/1000 with a thickness of 1.8 mm. Complimenting this, and closing off the rail section as it transitions rearward, are the rear floor panel and wheelhouse inner panels, with material types DP 350/600 and DP 700/1000 and material thicknesses of 1.1 mm and 1.4-mm respectively. In this area, the suspension trailing arm is attached to the lower surface of the rail, by a reinforcement incorporated within the rail section. The 5-blank tailor welded body side outer panel closes off the outside of the rocker rear end. This portion of the outer panel is manufactured from DP 700/1000, with a thickness 1.2 mm. - forward of this the outer panel blank thickness is 1.8 mm.

6.6. Upper Structure

6.6.1. C-Class

The most distinct aspect of the upper structure is the two tubular body side members designed to transfer loads between the A-post and rear longitudinal rails; as the tubes incorporate the A-pillar, roof side rail and partial C-pillar structure. Each member is hydroformed from an 85 mm diameter DP 500/800 tube, with a material thickness of 1.0 mm. At the front end, loads are transferred from the front rails through the dash crash box into the members at the A-post. The tube diameter is expanded and material axially fed into the tool during the manufacturing process (tubular hydroforming). In this way, a larger weld surface is created at the A-post joint.

Figures 6.6.1-1 and 6.6.1-2 show the two tubular hydroformed body side members located in the C-Class body structure.

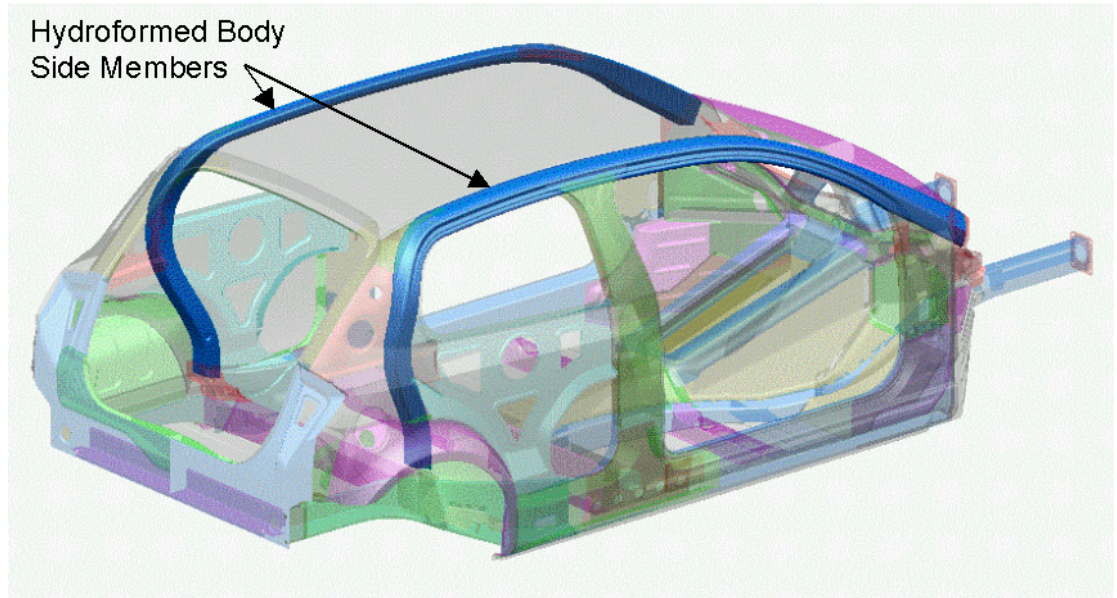


Figure 6.6.1-1 C-Class tubular hydroformed body side members 3/4 rear view

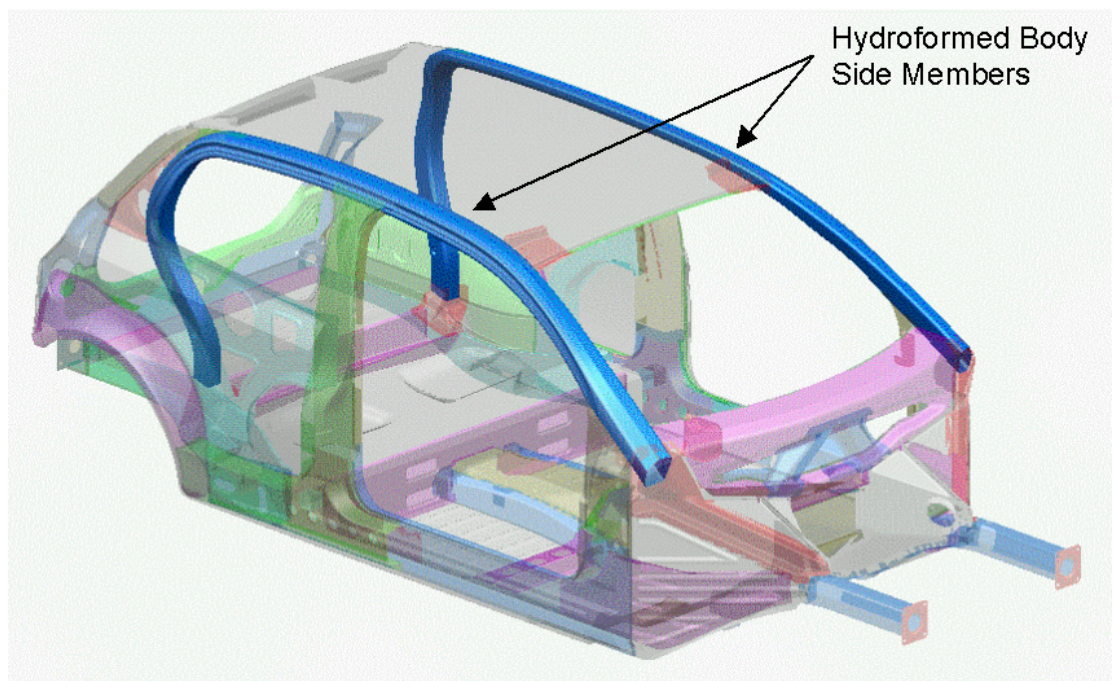


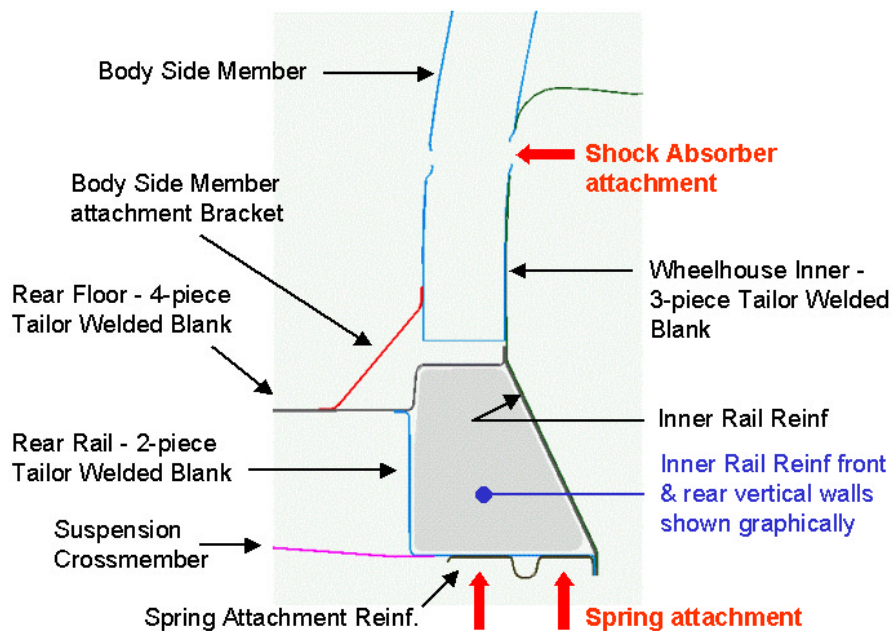
Figure 6.6.1-2 C-Class tubular hydroformed body side members 3/4 front view

6

Body-In-White Concepts

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At the rear, the body side members are attached on the top surface of the rear floor (upper part of the longitudinal rails) with a bracket connecting both longitudinal rails and rear rail upper surface (see Figure 6.6.1-3). Positioned directly below the body side member, and attached to the inner reinforcement on the rail lower surface, is the suspension spring reinforcement. The suspension shock absorber attachment bushings are integrated into the tube, and are reinforced by the member attachment bracket. With this arrangement, loads are transferred from the suspension spring and the shock absorber attachments from the outside into the longitudinal rails and the body side members.



ISO-view showing integration of rear end upper structure with the underbody structure - Rear Floor & Body Side Outer panels are shown transparent

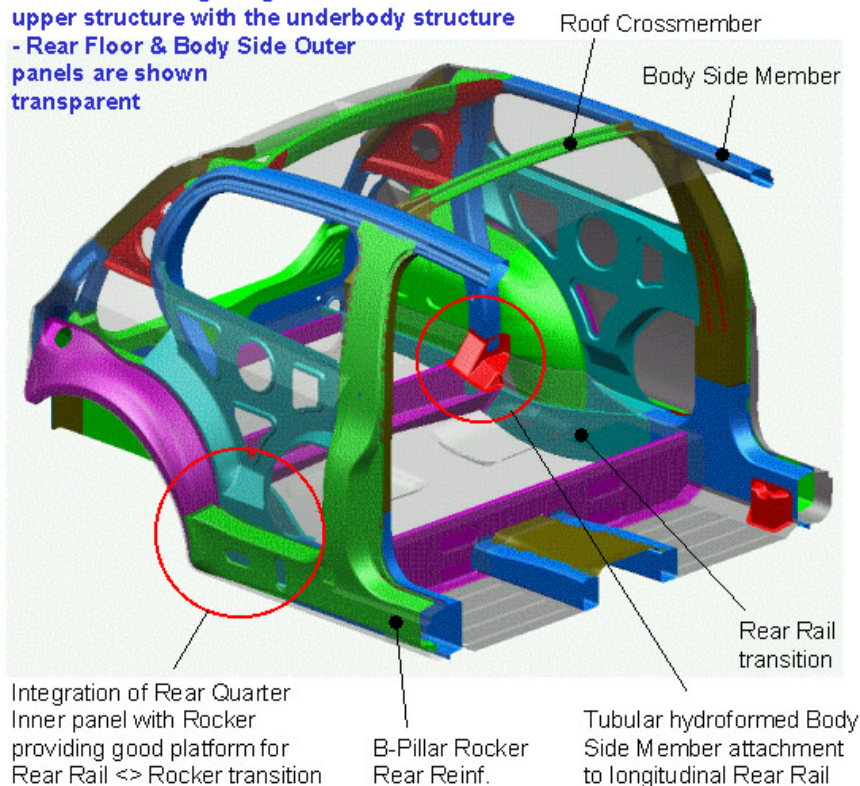


Figure 6.6.1-3 C-Class Rear end upper structure

The two body side members are as essential to the ULSAB-AVC upper structure architecture as the front longitudinal rails are to the underbody structure. For improved body stiffness and for manufacturing reasons, much consideration was given to the rear header to C-pillar joint concept as shown in Figure 6.6.1-4. The header panel, front adhesive bonded and rear welded to the roof panel, creates a closed box section at each end. This design, not only creates a good joint, but provides a welding base for the roof panel.

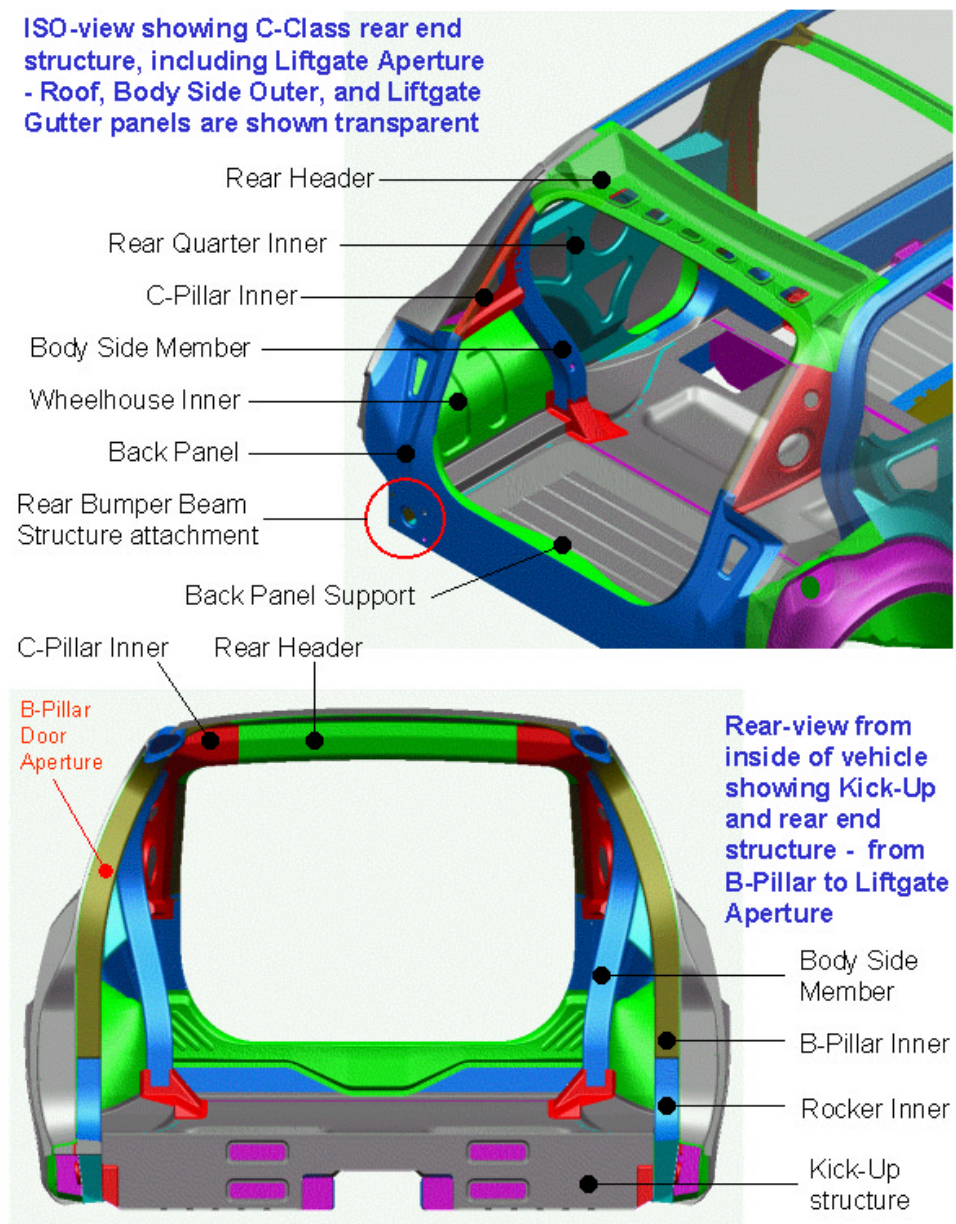


Figure 6.6.1-4 C-Class rear end structure

6.6.2. PNGV-Class

Identical in principle as the C-Class concept, the PNGV-Class upper structure employs two hydroformed members (see Figures 6.6.2-1 and 6.6.2-2), designed to transfer loads between the a-post and rear longitudinal rails, as the tubes include the A-pillar, roof side rail, and partial C-pillar structure.

The design concept also integrates the package tray structure. Each member is hydroformed from an 85 mm diameter DP tube 500/800, with a material thickness of 1.0 mm. At the lower a-pillar, loads are transferred from the front rails through the dash crash box into the body side members. Although different at the rear end, the body side member terminates at the rear rail in an identical manner as its C-Class counterparts, while using the same components for joining of the body side member to the rear (see Figure 6.6.2-3).

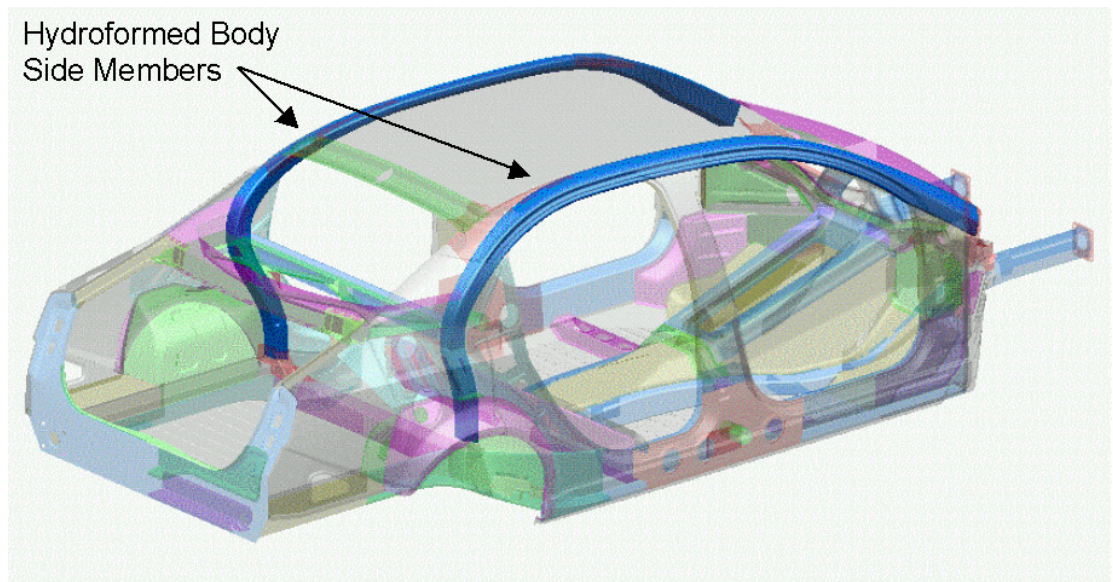


Figure 6.6.2-1 PNGV-Class tubular hydroformed body side member 3/4 rear view

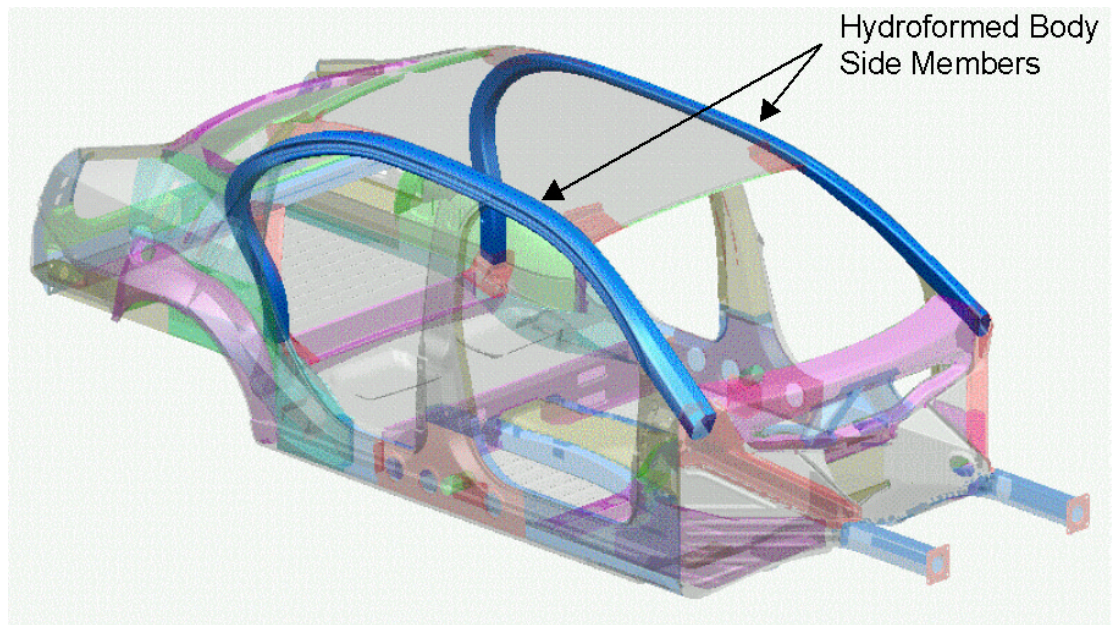


Figure 6.6.2-2 PNGV-Class tubular hydroformed body side members 3/4 front view

At the juncture at which the body side members deflect from the roof panel, and redirect towards the rear longitudinal rails, the rear header support panels, which are laser welded to the side members, provide a good structural platform and weld surface for the roof panel. The roof panel is joined to the structure during final assembly, with the application of one continuous laser weld on both sides of the vehicle structure.

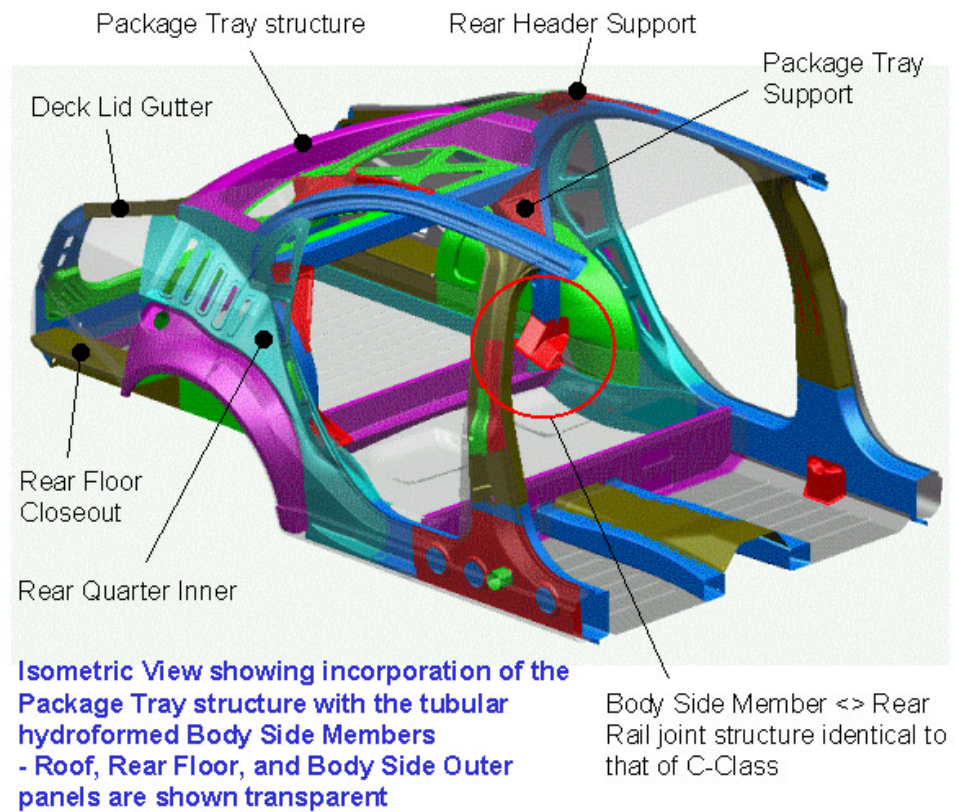


Figure 6.6.2-3 Upper structure PNV-Class 3/4 front view

Much attention has been given to the package tray design concept. The rear seating arrangement employs a 60/40 split seat back and seat cushion. Similar to that of C-Class, both cushions tilt forward independently in the vehicle, allowing the back rests to tilt and lay flat. This provides package space and access from the rear of the vehicle. For this reason, it was imperative to develop a package tray concept without either diagonal braces or a sheer wall that would otherwise restrict access.

The package tray assembly is shown in Figure 6.6.2-4. The package tray crossmember consists of a 72 mm square DP tube 280/600 with a material thickness of 1.0 mm. The crossmember vertical walls are aligned with those of the body side members, and are supported by the package tray support brackets that are laser welded to the body side members and to the package tray crossmember. The tray upper is an inverted U-profile stamping that provides the rear glass attachment surface, and is laser welded forward in the vehicle

to the body side members above the crossmember joints. The package tray lower panel, which is laser welded to the crossmember top surface, closes the U-section package tray upper from underneath. This package tray design, which incorporates the package tray crossmember provides a cross-vehicle load path, which is important for torsional rigidity of the structure.

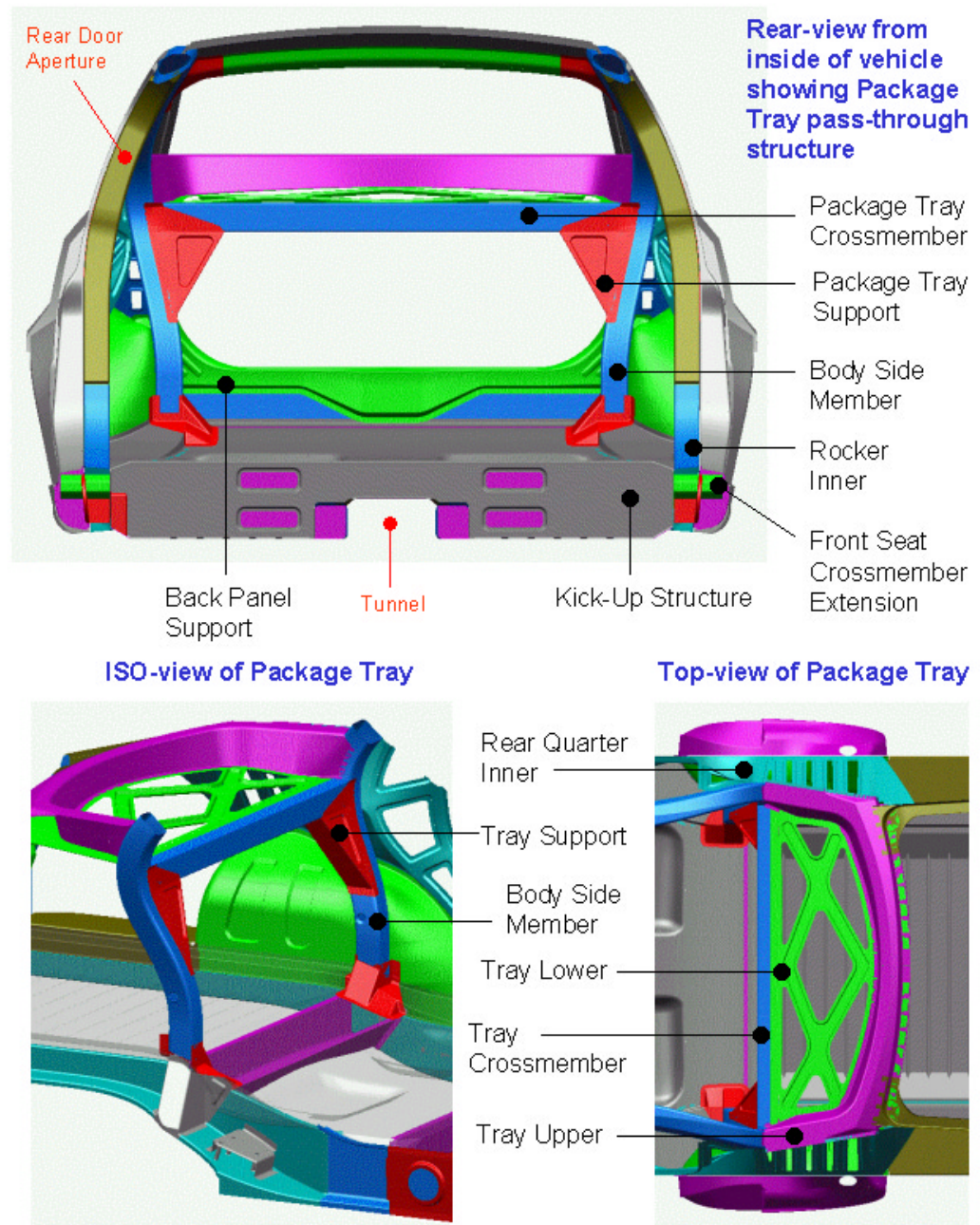


Figure 6.6.2-4 Package tray

6.7. B-Pillar Structure

6.7.1. C-Class

In the C-Class B-pillar design (see Figure 6.7.1-1), the design criteria included the US-SINCAP 38.5 mph side impact event, Side Pole crash event and the Roof Crush. The B-pillar design concept contributes largely towards meeting the stringent demands imposed by these crash events. Unlike the PNGV-Class structure, the absence of a rear door presented a challenge, resulting in a very different approach for C-Class than for PNGV-Class.

A U-profile B-pillar inner panel connects the rocker to the body side member. Creating a closed section, a full-length B-pillar inner reinforcement is incorporated into the rocker section, between the lower B-pillar joint and wheelhouse.

**C-Class B-Pillar structure exploded
- Rear Floor and Roof shown transparent**

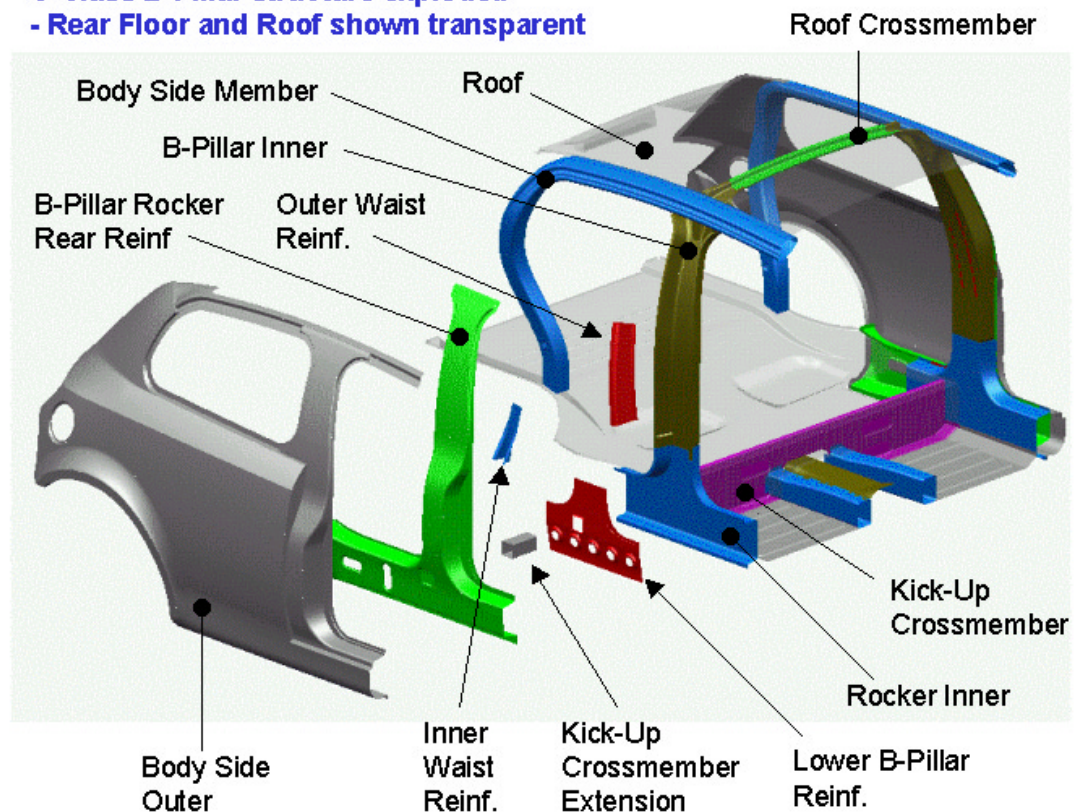


Figure 6.7.1-1 C-Class B-Pillar structure partial exploded view

The lower joint has a flat reinforcement, creating a sheer plane between the lower rocker weld flange, and the door aperture seal attachment weld flange. Passing through the reinforcement laterally is the kick-up crossmember extension is a 55-mm square section Mart tube 950/1200 with a material thickness of 1.2 mm (see Figure 6.7.1-3). This tube transfers load in the side crash events into the kick-up crossmember.

To restrict major B-pillar bending and deformation in Side Impact, two U-profile reinforcements (AVC# 11202 and AVC 21232) are incorporated within the closed B-pillar section as shown in Figure 6.7.1-2. They are positioned at the transition from lower pillar structure to upper glass-support structure. The inner reinforcement is welded to the B-pillar inner panel, extending the length of the transition. The opposing outer reinforcement is welded to the B-pillar reinforcement, below the waist, occupying the space created by increasing the lateral section. The reinforcements are not aligned due to the door latch packaging constraints of the 2-door hatchback.

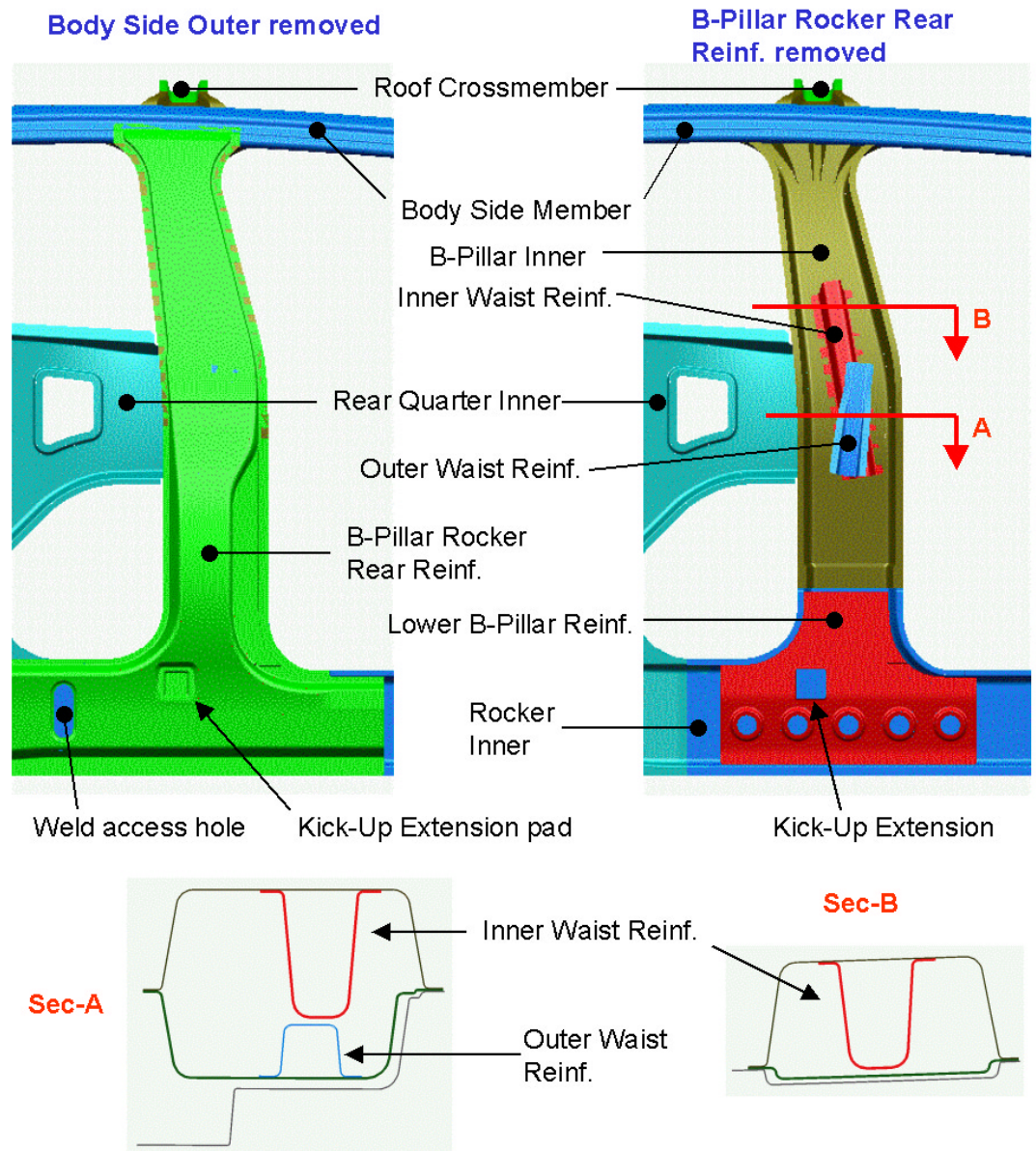


Figure 6.7.1-2 B-Pillar structure C-Class

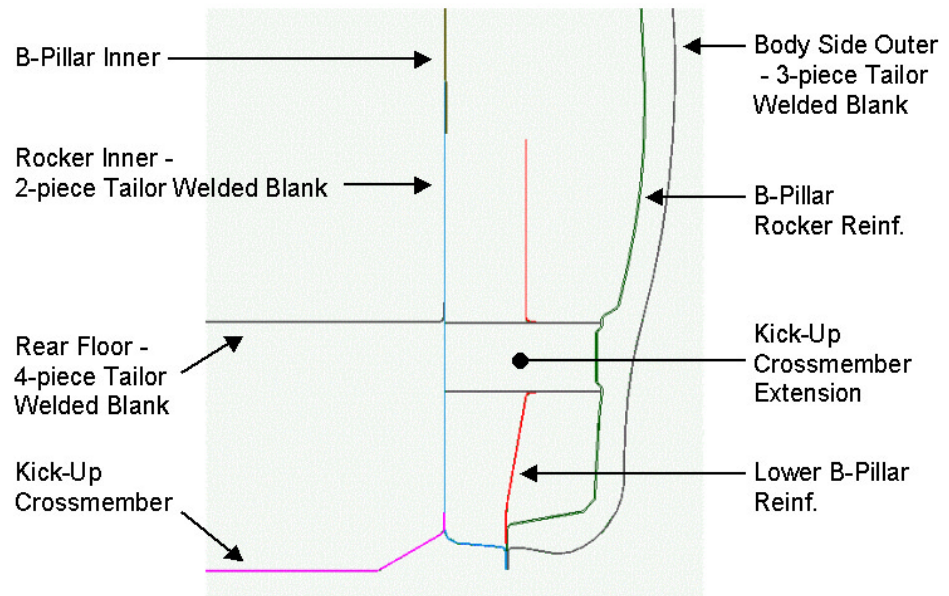


Figure 6.7.1-3 Section through Kick-up crossmember extension

6.7.2. PNGV-Class

Although equally as important as the C-Class B-pillar, the PNGV-Class B-pillar (see Figure 6.7.2-1) is different in design as a result of the requirements for a 4-door sedan.

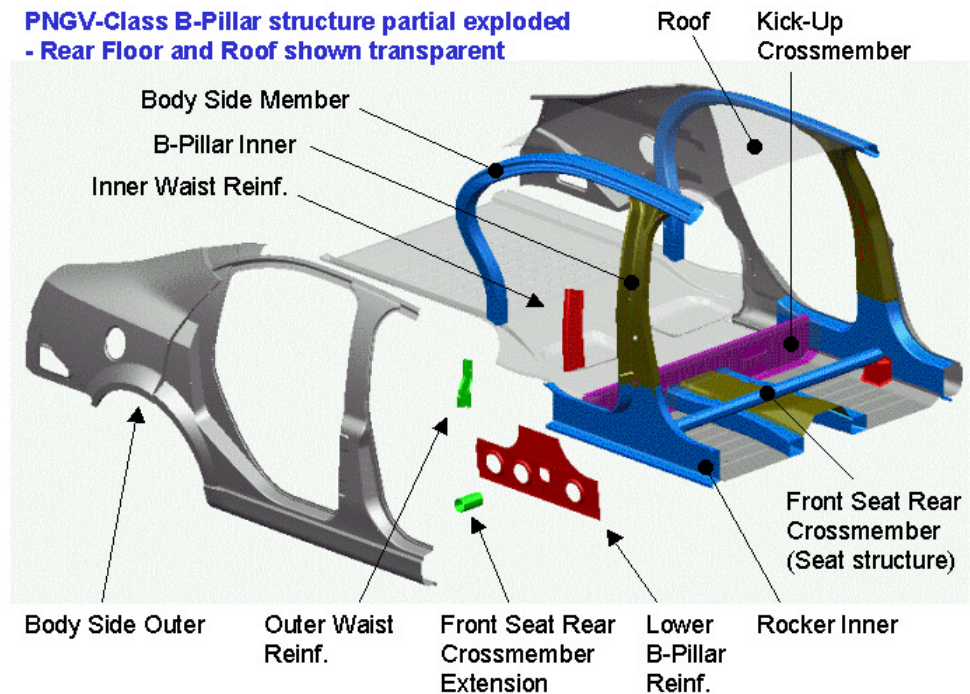


Figure 6.7.2-1 PNGV-Class B-pillar structure partial exploded view

As in the C-Class, a U-profile B-pillar inner panel connects the rocker inner panel to the body side member. However, in the PNGV-Class B-pillar design, a 5-blank tailor welded body side outer panel replaces the full-length b-pillar inner reinforcement. The outer B-pillar portion of the complex body side outer blank is dual phase steel, with a 700 MPa yield strength, and 1.8 mm thickness.

Similar in principle to C-Class and shown in Figure 6.7.2-2, the lower joint has a flat reinforcement that creates a sheer plane between the lower, vertical rocker weld flange and both door aperture seal attachment weld flanges. Passing through the flat reinforcement laterally is an octagonal extension Mart tube 950/1200 with a material thickness of 1.2 mm and has the same dimensions as the seat crossmember of 60 mm. Whereas, the C-Class design uses a square tube (with the same material specifications) to transfer loads into the kick-up crossmember, in the PNGV-Class design, this tube is aligned with the front seat rear crossmember matching its 60 mm size. A section through the seat crossmember and the seat crossmember extension is shown in Figure 6.7.2-3.

To restrict major b-pillar bending and deformation at the waist, PNGV-Class employs the same concept shown in Figure 6.7.2-2 as C-Class. Two U-profile reinforcements are incorporated within the closed b-pillar section. The reinforcement joined to the inner panel is common to both vehicle variants. The similar outer reinforcement is welded to the body side outer panel instead of the C-Class full length reinforcement. Both arrangements result in good side impact performance.

The door attachment system for the rear door is identical to that of the front door. The hinge body incorporates a stem that passes through the B-pillar, and that is welded to both the B-pillar inner panel and body side outer panel. In conjunction with the 1.8 mm blank thickness of the body side outer panel, this concept results in increased body structure stiffness, as well as potential reduction in both part-count and in manufacturing costs.

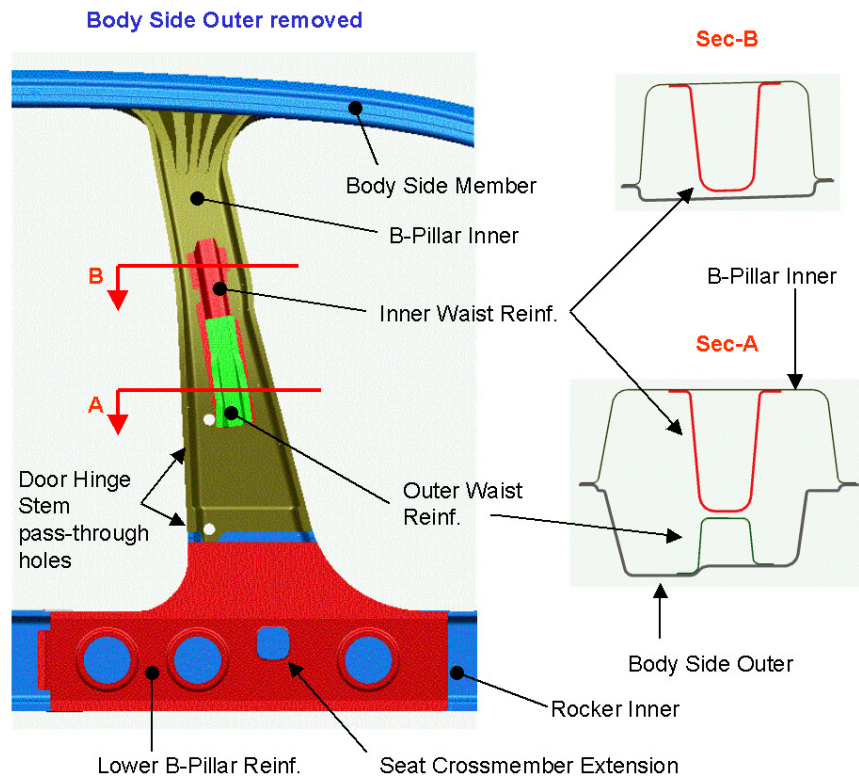


Figure 6.7.2-2 B-Pillar structure PNGV-Class

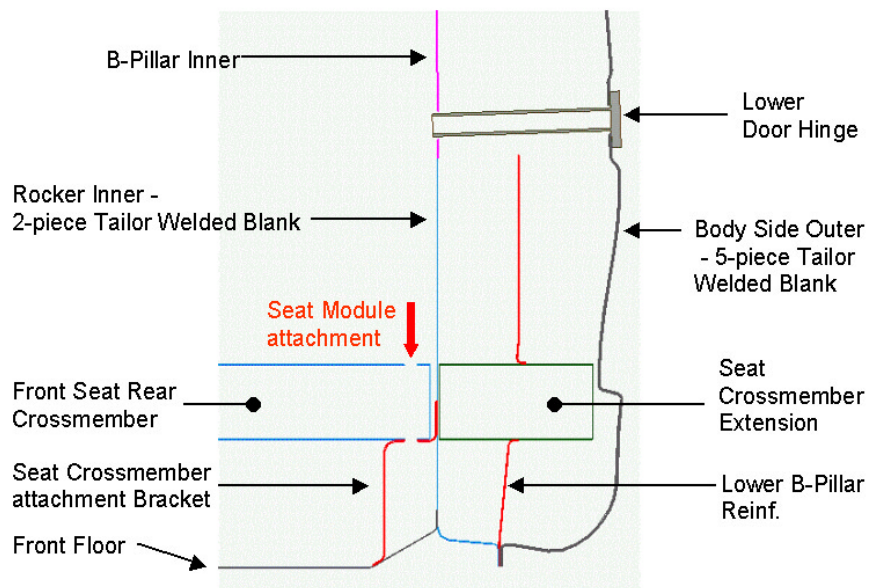


Figure 6.7.2-3 PNGV-Class seat crossmember section

6.8. Closure Structures

A comprehensive detailed description of development of criteria pertaining to doors, hood, liftgate and decklid can be found in the ULSAC Phase-1 & ULSAC Phase-2 Engineering Reports.

Closure structures for ULSAB-AVC represent concept designs, therefore, structural performances will have to be verified in a detail design phase.

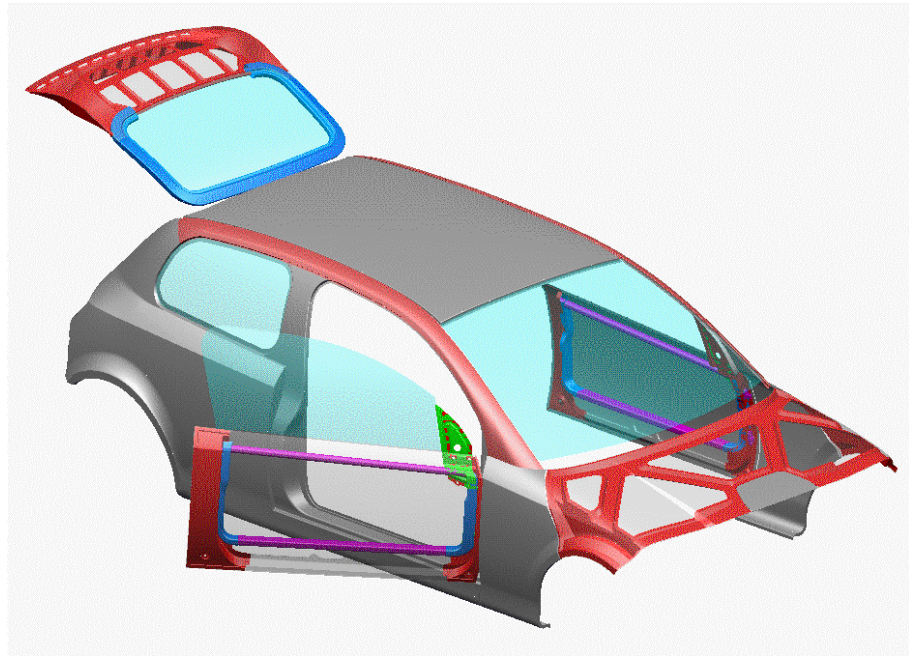


Figure 6.8-1 C-Class closure structures including glass 3/4 front view

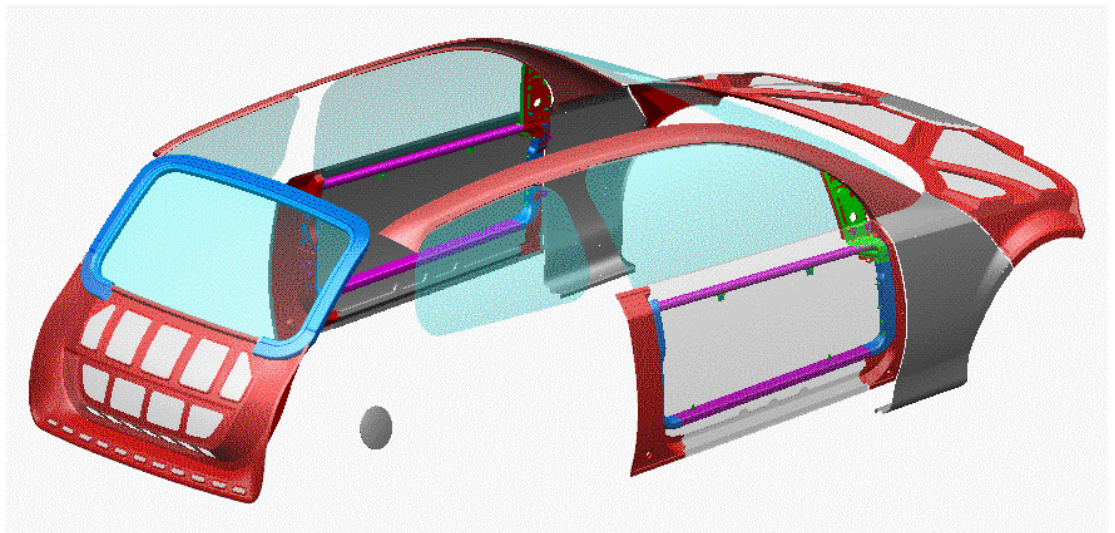


Figure 6.8-2 C-Class closure structures including glass 3/4 rear view

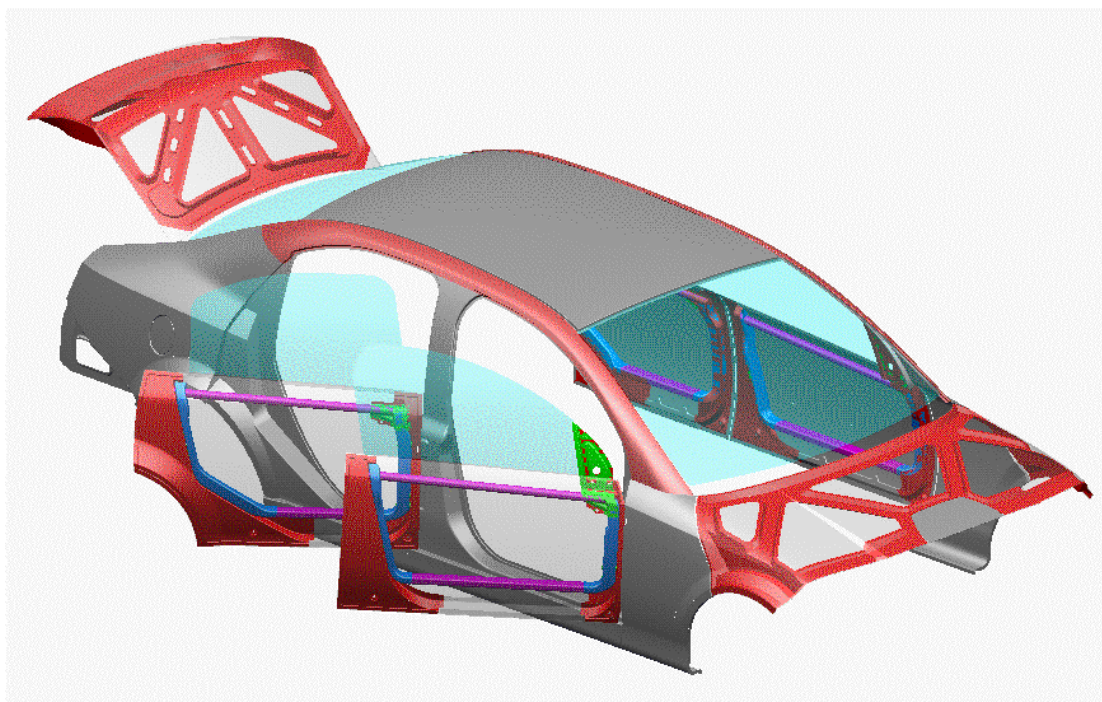


Figure 6.8-3 PNGV-Class closure structures including glass 3/4 front view

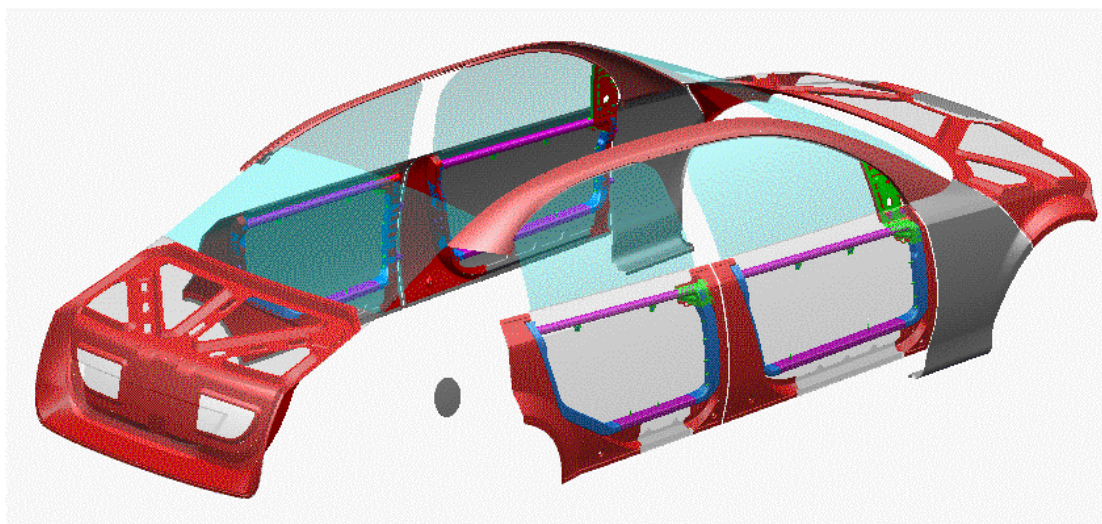


Figure 6.8-4 PNGV-Class closure structures including glass 3/4 rear view

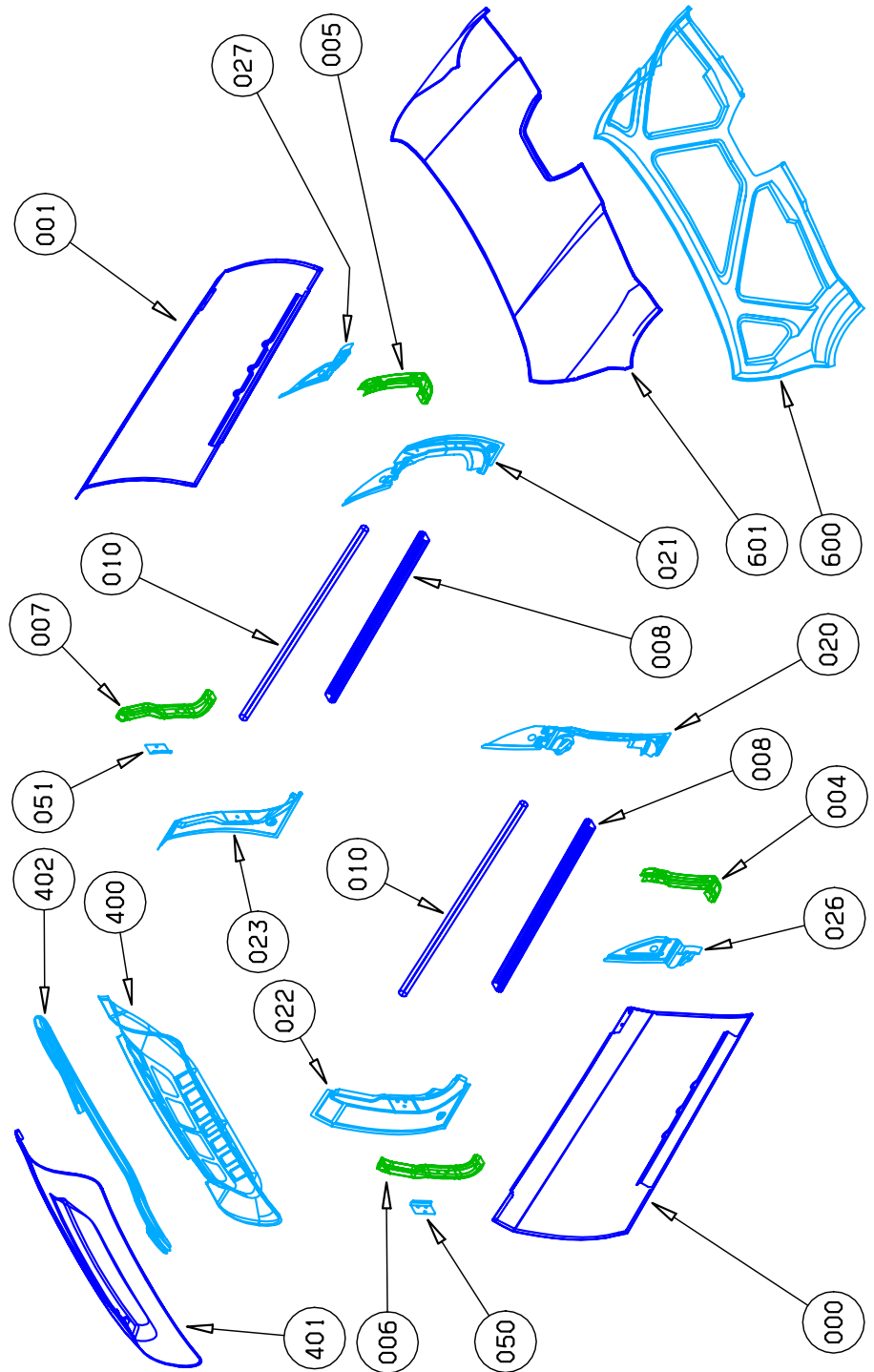


Figure 6.8-5 Exploded view C-Class closures structure

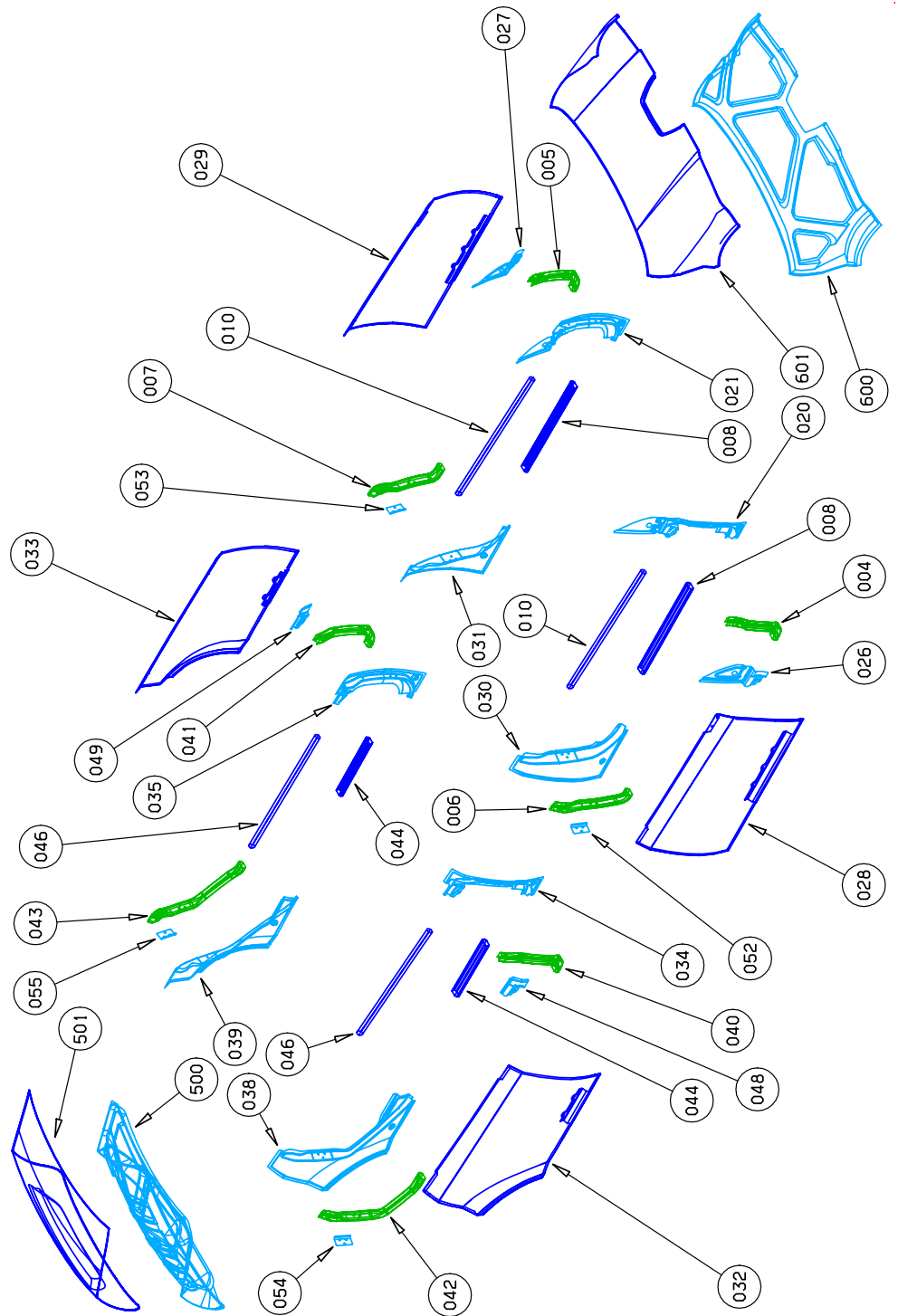


Figure 6.8-6 Exploded view PNGV-Class closures structure

6.8.1. Doors – C-Class and PNGV-Class

In principle, the same conceptual design approach, and technologies were used on the current ULSAB-AVC program, as were used during ULSAC Validation Phase.

For the ULSAB-AVC program, two front doors were developed. The C-Class door (see Figure 6.8.1-1) is an extended version of the PNGV-Class door (see Figure 6.8.1-2). In keeping with the ULSAC design, both doors employ tubular hydroformed front and rear vertical members for hinge and latch attachment, connected by straight upper and lower longitudinal tubes.

Completing the basic structure are partial front and rear inner panels, an outer panel, mirror flag panel, and latch reinforcement. The PNGV-Class rear door is very similar to the front door, except the mirror flag panel is replaced by partial front-end waist reinforcement.

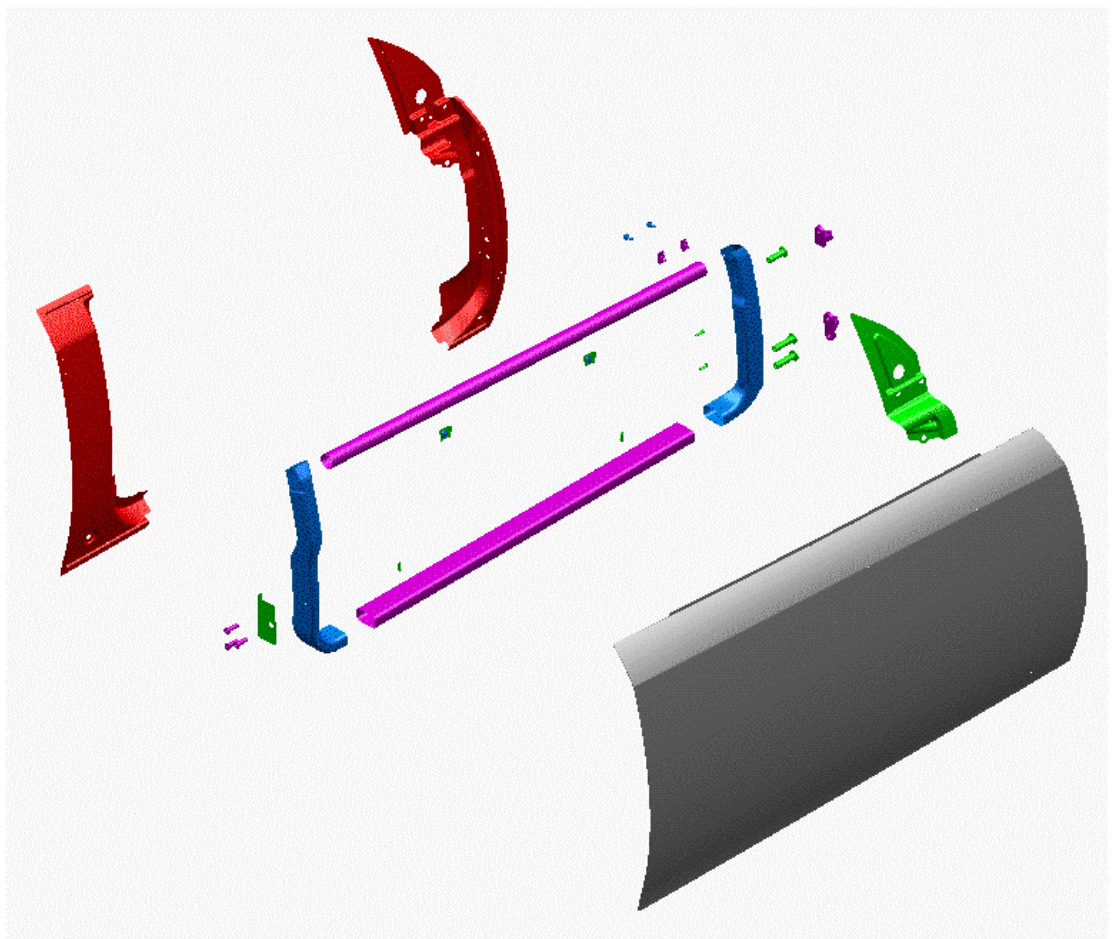


Figure 6.8.1-1 Exploded view of C-Class Door Structure

Table 6.8.1-1 Parts list C-Class - Front Door RH/LH

File Revision Level: A14 Date: 27 JUL 01

Number			Name	Revision Level	Date	Blank No.	Gage (mm)	Material Type	Grade (MPa)		Manuf. Process Code	Designed Mass (kg)	
									Yield Strength	Tensile Strength		C-Class	PNGV-Class
AVC	1	2004	Hinge Tube - Front Door RH	C02	09-Apr-01		1.20	IF *	260	410	HFT	0.648	
AVC	1	2005	Hinge Tube - Front Door LH	C02	09-Apr-01		1.20	IF *	260	410	HFT	0.648	
AVC	1	2020	Inner Front - Front Door RH	B03	10-Apr-01	1	1.00	Mild	140	270	S/TWB	0.500	
						2	1.20	Mild	140	270		0.384	
AVC	1	2021	Inner Front - Front Door LH	B03	10-Apr-01	1	1.00	Mild	140	270	S/TWB	0.500	
						2	1.20	Mild	140	270		0.384	
AVC	1	2026	Mirror Flag Outer - Front Door RH	B03	04-Apr-01		1.00	Mild	140	270	S	0.330	
AVC	1	2027	Mirror Flag Outer - Front Door LH	B03	04-Apr-01		1.00	Mild	140	270	S	0.330	
AVC	1	2045	Assy W-Reg Attach Upper - FD (0.007kg x4)	A00	09-May-01		0.90	Mild	140	270	S	0.028	
AVC	1	2047	Hinge Bushing - Front Door (0.041kg x6)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.246	
AVC	1	2056	Latch Bushing - Front Door (0.014kg x6)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.084	
AVC	1	2057	U-Clip M6 x 1.00 - Front Door (0.011kg x4)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.044	
AVC	1	2058	Hex Flange Head M6 x 15 - FD (0.040kg x4)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.160	
AVC	1	2059	Weld Stud M6 x 16 - Front Door (0.005kg x8)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.040	
AVC	1	2060	Adhesive Bond Lwr Tube - FD (0.070kg x2)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.140	
AVC	2	2000	Outer - Front Door RH	C04	08-Apr-01		0.60	DP	350	600	S or HFS	4.542	
AVC	2	2001	Outer - Front Door LH	C04	08-Apr-01		0.60	DP	350	600	S or HFS	4.542	
AVC	2	2006	Latch Tube - Front Door RH	C02	09-Apr-01		1.00	IF *	260	410	HFT	0.610	
AVC	2	2007	Latch Tube - Front Door LH	C02	09-Apr-01		1.00	IF *	260	410	HFT	0.610	
AVC	2	2008	Lower Tube - Front Door (x2)	D00	04-Apr-01		1.50	DP *	500	800	ST	3.450	
AVC	2	2010	Outer Belt Reinforcement - Front Door (x2)	D00	05-Apr-01		1.00	DP *	500	800	ST	1.860	
AVC	2	2022	Inner Rear - Front Door RH	B02	11-Apr-01		0.60	Mild	140	270	S	0.696	
AVC	2	2023	Inner Rear - Front Door LH	B02	11-Apr-01		0.60	Mild	140	270	S	0.696	
AVC	2	2050	Reinforcement Latch - Front Door RH	A00	02-Apr-01		1.20	Mild	140	270	S	0.060	
AVC	2	2051	Reinforcement Latch - Front Door LH	A00	02-Apr-01		1.20	Mild	140	270	S	0.060	
TOTAL												21.592	

Code	Manufacturing Process
S	Stamped
S/TWB	Stamped / Tailor Welded Blanks
HFT	Hydroformed Tube
S or HFS	Stamped or Hydroformed Sheet
ST	Straight or Shaped Tube

* denotes Tube

Code	Steel Types
DP	Dual Phase
IF	Interstitial-Free
Mild	Mild Steel

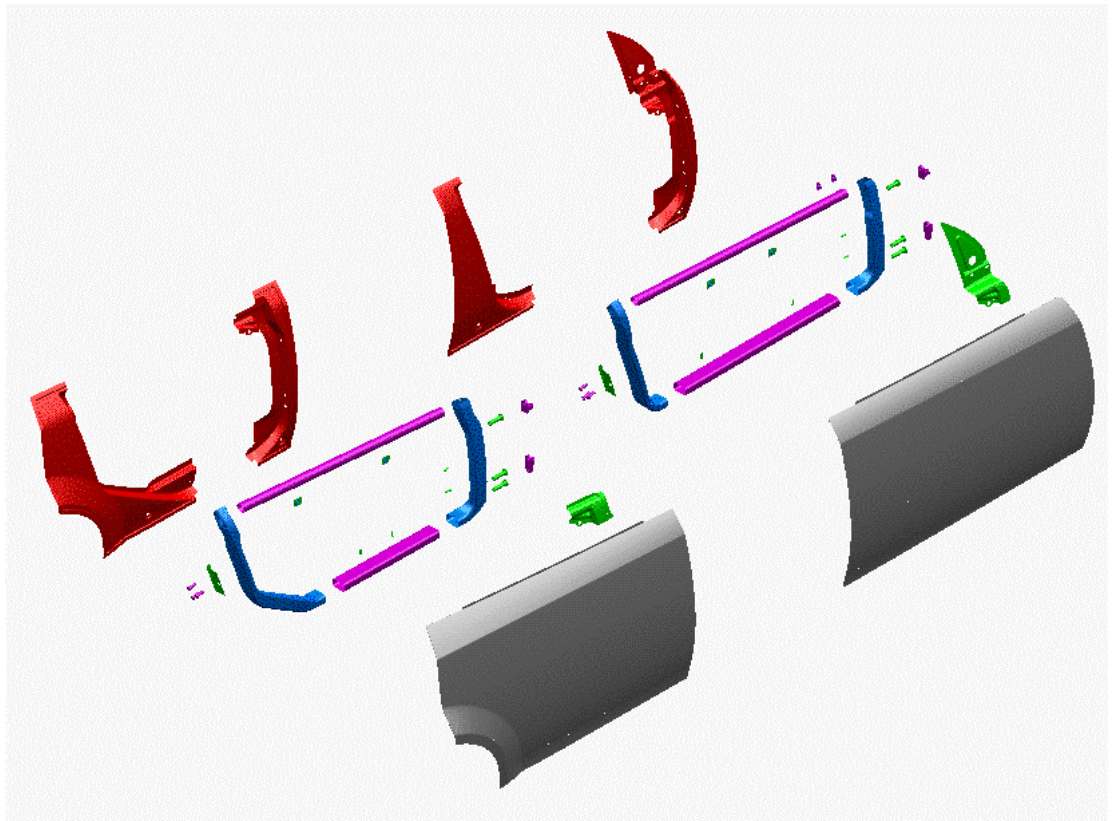


Figure 6.8.1-2 Exploded view of PNGV-Class front and rear door structure

Table 6.8.1-2 Parts list PNGV-Class - Front Door RH/LH

File Revision Level: A14 Date: 27 JUL 01

Number			Name	Revision Level	Date	Blank No.	Gage (mm)	Material Type	Grade (MPa)		Manuf. Process Code	Designed Mass (kg)	
									Yield Strength	Tensile Strength		C-Class	PNGV-Class
AVC	1	2004	Hinge Tube - Front Door RH	C02	09-Apr-01		1.20	IF *	260	410	HFT		0.648
AVC	1	2005	Hinge Tube - Front Door LH	C02	09-Apr-01		1.20	IF *	260	410	HFT		0.648
AVC	1	2020	Inner Front - Front Door RH	B03	10-Apr-01	1	1.00	Mild	140	270	S/TWB		0.500
						2	1.20	Mild	140	270			0.384
AVC	1	2021	Inner Front - Front Door LH	B03	10-Apr-01	1	1.00	Mild	140	270	S/TWB		0.500
						2	1.20	Mild	140	270			0.384
AVC	1	2045	Assy W-Reg Attach Upper - FD (0.007kg x4)	A00	09-May-01		0.90	Mild	140	270	S		0.028
AVC	1	2047	Hinge Bushing - Front Door (0.041kg x6)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.246
AVC	1	2056	Latch Bushing - Front Door (0.014kg x6)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.084
AVC	1	2057	U-Clip M6 x 1.00 - Front Door (0.011kg x4)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.044
AVC	1	2058	Hex Flange Head M6 x 15 - FD (0.040kg x4)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.160
AVC	1	2059	Weld Stud M6 x 16 - Front Door (0.005kg x8)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.040
AVC	1	2060	Adhesive Bond Lwr Tube - FD (0.070kg x2)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.140
AVC	1	2026	Mirror Flag Outer - Front Door RH	B03	04-Apr-01		1.00	Mild	140	270	S		0.330
AVC	1	2027	Mirror Flag Outer - Front Door LH	B03	04-Apr-01		1.00	Mild	140	270	S		0.330
AVC	3	2006	Latch Tube - Front Door RH	C02	10-Apr-01		1.00	IF *	260	410	HFT		0.620
AVC	3	2007	Latch Tube - Front Door LH	C02	10-Apr-01		1.00	IF *	260	410	HFT		0.620
AVC	3	2008	Lower Tube - Front Door (x2)	D00	04-Apr-01		1.50	DP *	500	800	ST		2.580
AVC	3	2010	Outer Belt Reinforcement - Front Door (x2)	D00	05-Apr-01		1.00	DP *	500	800	ST		1.600
AVC	3	2028	Outer - Front Door RH	B05	08-Apr-01		0.60	DP	350	600	S or HFS		3.792
AVC	3	2029	Outer - Front Door LH	B05	08-Apr-01		0.60	DP	350	600	S or HFS		3.792
AVC	3	2030	Inner Rear - Front Door RH	B02	10-Apr-01		0.60	Mild	140	270	S		0.798
AVC	3	2031	Inner Rear - Front Door LH	B02	10-Apr-01		0.60	Mild	140	270	S		0.798
AVC	3	2052	Reinforcement Latch - Front Door RH	A00	02-Apr-01		1.20	Mild	140	270	S		0.060
AVC	3	2053	Reinforcement Latch - Front Door LH	A00	02-Apr-01		1.20	Mild	140	270	S		0.060
TOTAL													19.186

Code	Manufacturing Process
S	Stamped
S/TWB	Stamped / Tailor Welded Blanks
HFT	Hydroformed Tube
S or HFS	Stamped or Hydroformed Sheet
ST	Straight or Shaped Tube

* denotes Tube

Code	Steel Types
DP	Dual Phase
IF	Interstitial-Free
Mild	Mild Steel

Table 6.8.1-3 Parts list PNGV-Class - Rear Doors RH/LH

File Revision Level: A14 Date: 27 JUL 01

Number			Name	Revision Level	Date	Blank No.	Gage (mm)	Material Type	Grade (MPa)		Manuf. Process Code	Designed Mass (kg)	
									Yield Strength	Tensile Strength		C-Class	PNGV-Class
AVC	1	2045	Assy W-Reg Attach Upper - FD (0.007kg x4)	A00	09-May-01		0.90	Mild	140	270	S		0.028
AVC	1	2047	Hinge Bushing - Front Door (0.041kg x6)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.246
AVC	1	2056	Latch Bushing - Front Door (0.014kg x6)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.084
AVC	1	2059	Weld Stud M6 x 16 - Front Door (0.005kg x8)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.040
AVC	1	2060	Adhesive Bond Lwr Tube - FD (0.070kg x2)	A00	09-May-01		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		0.140
AVC	3	2032	Outer - Rear Door RH	B02	05-Apr-01		0.60	DP	350	600	S or HFS		3.792
AVC	3	2033	Outer - Rear Door LH	B02	05-Apr-01		0.60	DP	350	600	S or HFS		3.792
AVC	3	2034	Inner Front - Rear Door RH	B02	12-Apr-01	1	1.00	Mild	140	270	S/TWB		0.430
						2	1.20	Mild	140	270			0.408
AVC	3	2035	Inner Front - Rear Door LH	B02	12-Apr-01	1	1.00	Mild	140	270	S/TWB		0.430
						2	1.20	Mild	140	270			0.408
AVC	3	2038	Inner Rear - Rear Door RH	B02	12-Apr-01		0.60	Mild	140	270	S		1.062
AVC	3	2039	Inner Rear - Rear Door LH	B02	12-Apr-01		0.60	Mild	140	270	S		1.062
AVC	3	2040	Hinge Tube - Rear Door RH	B02	12-Apr-01		1.20	IF *	260	410	HFT		0.744
AVC	3	2041	Hinge Tube - Rear Door LH	B02	10-Apr-01		1.20	IF *	260	410	HFT		0.744
AVC	3	2042	Latch Tube - Rear Door RH	B02	12-Apr-01		1.00	IF *	260	410	HFT		0.850
AVC	3	2043	Latch Tube - Rear Door LH	B02	12-Apr-01		1.00	IF *	260	410	HFT		0.850
AVC	3	2044	Lower Tube - Rear Door (x2)	C00	04-Apr-01		1.50	DP *	500	800	ST		1.560
AVC	3	2046	Outer Belt Reinforcement - Rear Door (x2)	C00	05-Apr-01		1.00	DP *	500	800	ST		1.480
AVC	3	2048	Reinf Belt Hinge Tube - Rear Door RH	B02	12-Apr-01		1.10	Mild	140	270	S		0.143
AVC	3	2049	Reinf Belt Hinge Tube - Rear Door LH	B02	12-Apr-01		1.10	Mild	140	270	S		0.143
AVC	3	2054	Reinforcement Latch - Rear Door RH	A00	02-Apr-01		1.20	Mild	140	270	S		0.060
AVC	3	2055	Reinforcement Latch - Rear Door LH	A00	02-Apr-01		1.20	Mild	140	270	S		0.060
TOTAL													18.556

Code	Manufacturing Process
S	Stamped
S/TWB	Stamped / Tailor Welded Blanks
HFT	Hydroformed Tube
S or HFS	Stamped or Hydroformed Sheet
ST	Straight or Shaped Tube

* denotes Tube

Code	Steel Types
DP	Dual Phase
IF	Interstitial-Free
Mild	Mild Steel

6.8.2. Hood – C-Class and PNGV-Class

The same principles were used to develop the ULSAB-AVC hood, as were developed in the ULSAC Program.

Common for both AVC vehicle variants, the ULSAB-AVC hood design (see Figure 6.8.2-1) features a stamped or sheet hydroformed outer panel attached to a stamped inner panel. Due to the engine/suspension compact design concept, the hood provides access to an additional stowage compartment, as well as the HVAC system incorporated into the engine cover module.

The hood is attached to the body at the rear and latched at the front to the engine cover module in two locations.

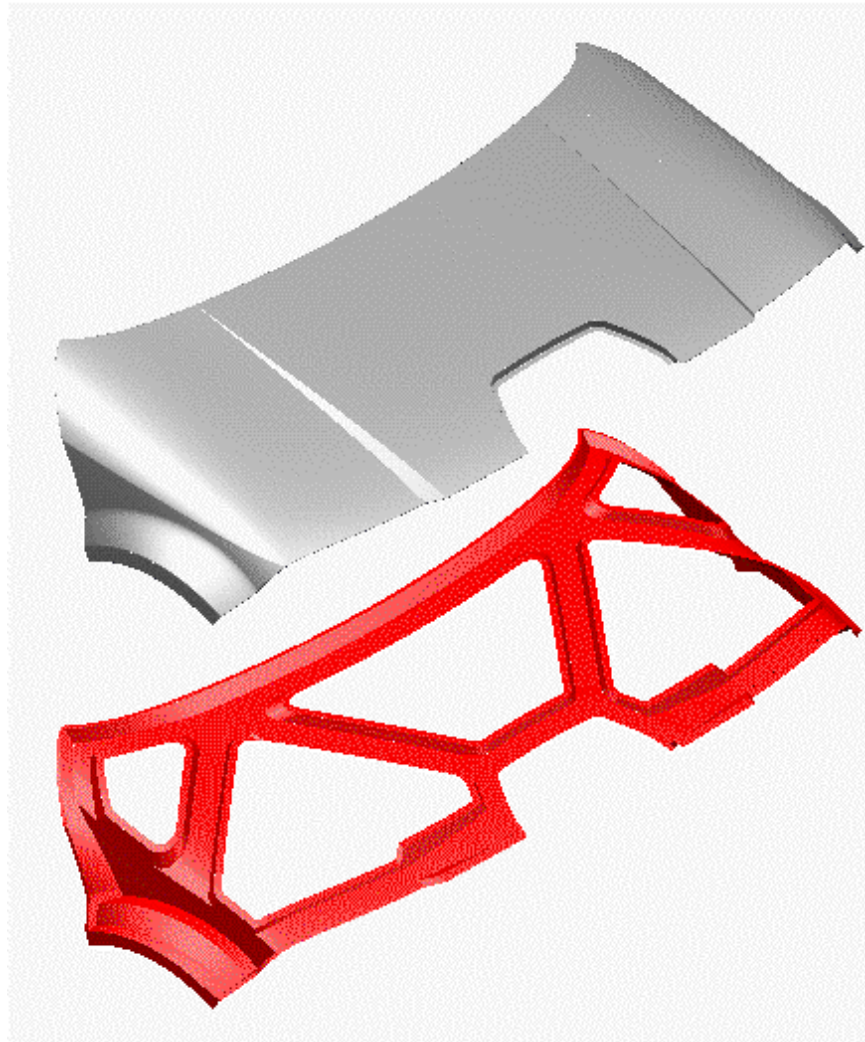


Figure 6.8.2-1 Exploded view of C-Class & PNGV-Class hood structure

Table 6.8.2-2 Parts list C-Class and PNGV-Class – Hood

File Revision Level: A14 Date: 27 JUL 01

Number		Name	Revision Level	Date	Blank No.	Gage (mm)	Material Type	Grade (MPa)		Manuf. Process Code	Designed Mass (kg)	
								Yield Strength	Tensile Strength		C-Class	PNGV-Class
AVC	1	2600	Inner - Hood	B01	10-Apr-01	0.60	Mild	140	270	S	3.408	3.408
AVC	1	2601	Outer - Hood	B00	09-Feb-01	0.60	DP	350	600	S or HFS	5.676	5.676
AVC	1	x	Striker Assembly - Hood	Ref: ULSAC Phase-1		2.50	Mild	140	270	S	0.070	0.070
AVC	1	x	Reinforcement Striker - Hood	Ref: ULSAC Phase-1		1.50	Mild	140	270	S	0.070	0.070
AVC	1	x	Reinforcement Hinge - Hood (x2)	Ref: ULSAC Phase-1		1.50	Mild	140	270	S	0.310	0.310
TOTAL											9.534	9.534

Code	Manufacturing Process
S	Stamped
S/TWB	Stamped / Tailor Welded Blanks
HFT	Hydroformed Tube
S or HFS	Stamped or Hydroformed Sheet
ST	Straight or Shaped Tube

* denotes Tube

Code	Steel Types
DP	Dual Phase
IF	Interstitial-Free
Mild	Mild Steel

6.8.3. Liftgate – C-Class

The same principles were used to develop the C-Class liftgate, as were used during the ULSAC Program.

The liftgate, shown in Figure 6.8.3-1, incorporates an upper frame, manufactured from a hydroformed tube. Creating the lower structure, and encapsulating the two lower tube ends, are the liftgate inner and outer panels. The liftgate features a stamped or sheet hydroformed outer panel attached to a stamped inner panel.

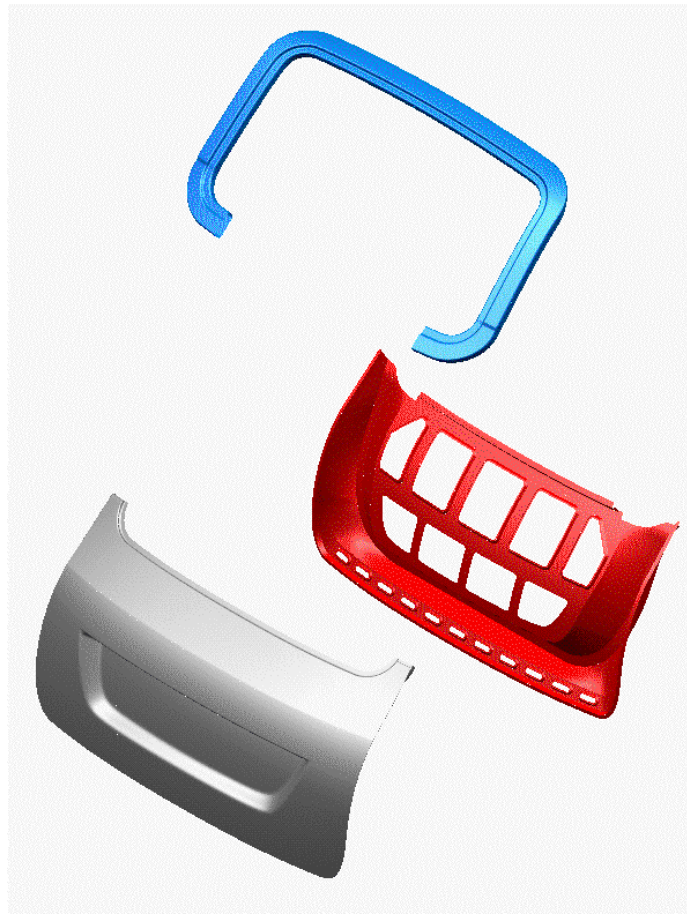


Figure 6.8.3-1 Exploded view of C-Class liftgate structure

Table 6.8.3-1 Parts list liftgate - C-Class

File Revision Level: A14 Date: 27 JUL 01

Number			Name	Revision Level	Date	Blank No.	Gage (mm)	Material Type	Grade (MPa)		Manuf. Process Code	Designed Mass (kg)	
									Yield Strength	Tensile Strength		C-Class	PNGV-Class
AVC	2	2400	Inner - Liftgate	B03	14-Feb-01		0.60	Mild	140	270	S	2.796	
AVC	2	2401	Outer - Liftgate	B03	14-Feb-01		0.60	DP	350	600	S or HFS	3.408	
AVC	2	2402	Member Aperture - Liftgate	B00	02-Feb-01		0.70	Mild *	140	270	HFT	2.240	
AVC	2	x	Reinforcement Latch - Liftgate	Ref: ULSAC Phase-1			1.50	Mild	140	270	S	0.120	
TOTAL												8.564	

Code	Manufacturing Process
S	Stamped
S/TWB	Stamped / Tailor Welded Blanks
HFT	Hydroformed Tube
S or HFS	Stamped or Hydroformed Sheet
ST	Straight or Shaped Tube

* denotes Tube

Code	Steel Types
DP	Dual Phase
IF	Interstitial-Free
Mild	Mild Steel

6.8.4. Decklid – PNGV-Class

The same principle technologies were used to develop the PNGV-Class decklid, as were used during the ULSAC Program.

The design principal features a stamped or sheet hydroformed outer panel attached to a stamped inner panel.

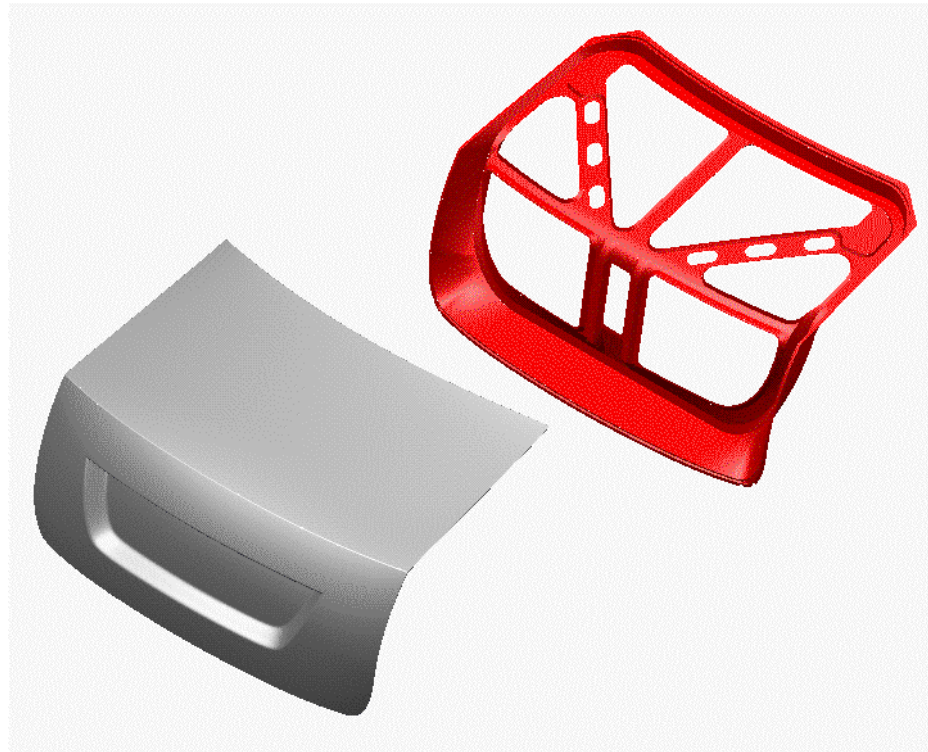


Figure 6.8.4-1 Exploded view of PNGV-Class decklid structure

Table 6.8.4-1 Parts list PNGV-Class - Deck Lid

File Revision Level: A14 Date: 27 JUL 01

Number			Name	Revision Level	Date	Blank No.	Gage (mm)	Material Type	Grade (MPa)		Manuf. Process Code	Designed Mass (kg)	
									Yield Strength	Tensile Strength		C-Class	PNGV-Class
AVC	3	2500	Inner - Deck Lid	C01	10-Apr-01		0.60	Mild	140	270	S		3.768
AVC	3	2501	Outer - Deck Lid	C00	12-Jan-01		0.60	DP	350	600	S or HFS		6.072
AVC	3	x	Striker Assembly - Decklid		Ref: ULSAC Phase-1		1.50	Mild	140	270	S		0.070
AVC	3	x	Reinforcement Striker - Decklid		Ref: ULSAC Phase-1		1.50	Mild	140	270	S		0.040
AVC	3	x	Reinforcement Hinge - Decklid (x2)		Ref: ULSAC Phase-1		1.20	Mild	140	270	S		0.320
TOTAL													10.270

Code	Manufacturing Process
S	Stamped
S/TWB	Stamped / Tailor Welded Blanks
HFT	Hydroformed Tube
S or HFS	Stamped or Hydroformed Sheet
ST	Straight or Shaped Tube

* denotes Tube

Code	Steel Types
DP	Dual Phase
IF	Interstitial-Free
Mild	Mild Steel

6.9. Ancillary Closures

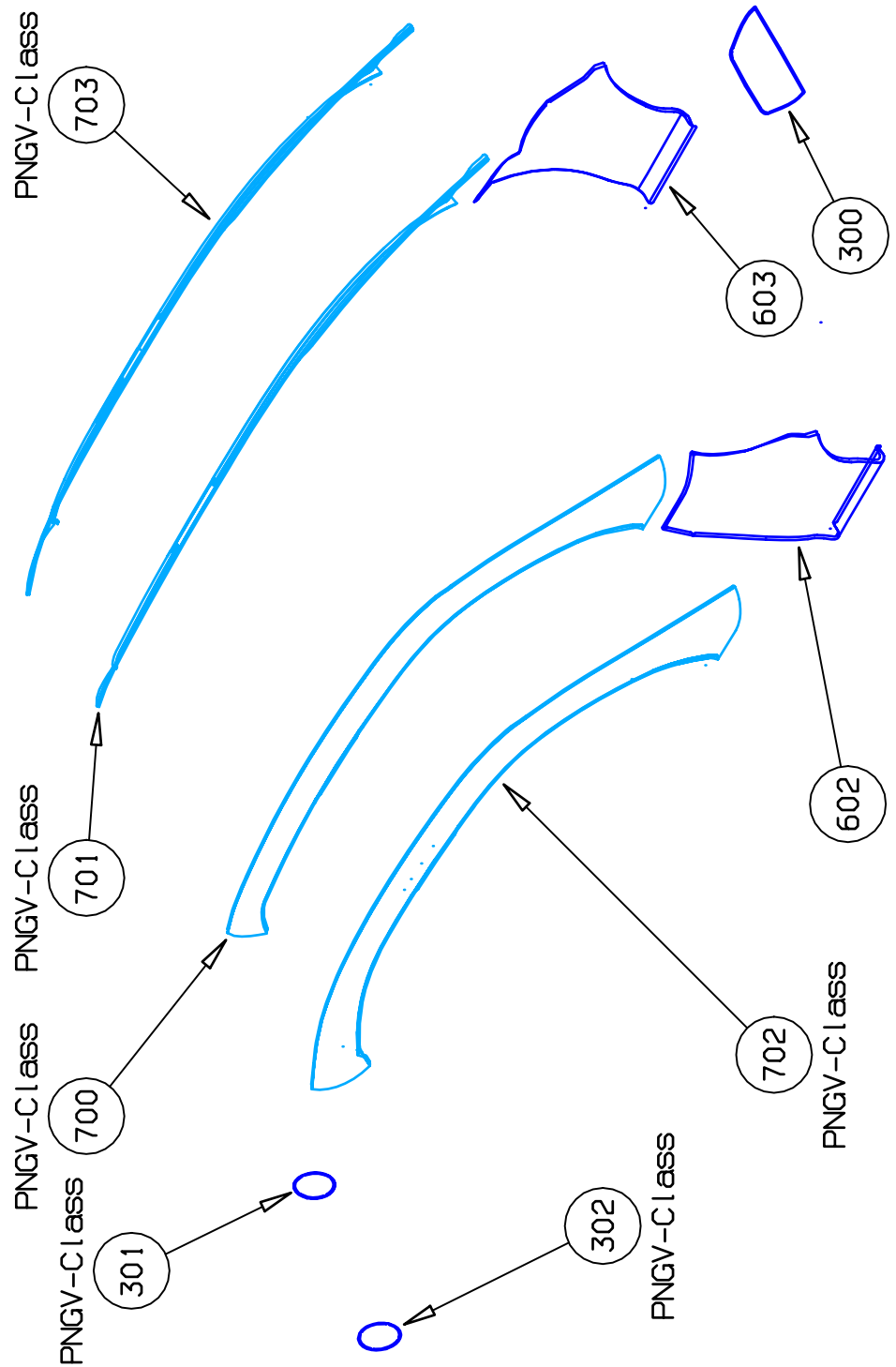


Figure 6.9-1 Exploded view of ancillary closures

Table 6.9-1 Parts list Ancillary Closures

File Revision Level: A14 Date: 27 JUL 01

Number			Name	Revision Level	Date	Blank No.	Gage (mm)	Material Type	Grade (MPa)		Manuf. Process Code	Designed Mass (kg)	
									Yield Strength	Tensile Strength		C-Class	PNGV-Class
AVC	1	2300	Engine Service Lid	A00	20-Feb-01		0.60	Mild	140	270	S	0.348	0.348
AVC	1	2602	Fender RH	B01	19-Feb-01		0.60	DP	350	600	S or HFS	1.608	1.608
AVC	1	2603	Fender LH	B01	19-Feb-01		0.60	DP	350	600	S or HFS	1.608	1.608
AVC	2	2301	Fuel Filler Lid	A00	20-Feb-01		0.60	Mild	140	270	S	0.090	
AVC	2	2700	Applique - Roof Side Rail RH	A02	19-Feb-01		0.50	Mild	140	270	S	1.290	
AVC	2	2701	Applique - Roof Side Rail LH	A02	19-Feb-01		0.50	Mild	140	270	S	1.290	
AVC	3	2302	Fuel Filler Lid	A00	20-Feb-01		0.60	Mild	140	270	S		0.090
AVC	3	2702	Applique - Roof Side Rail RH	A02	19-Feb-01		0.50	Mild	140	270	S		1.430
AVC	3	2703	Applique - Roof Side Rail LH	A02	19-Feb-01		0.50	Mild	140	270	S		1.430
TOTAL												6.234	6.514

Code	Manufacturing Process
S	Stamped
S/TWB	Stamped / Tailor Welded Blanks
HFT	Hydroformed Tube
S or HFS	Stamped or Hydroformed Sheet
ST	Straight or Shaped Tube

Code	Steel Types
DP	Dual Phase
IF	Interstitial-Free
Mild	Mild Steel

* denotes Tube

6.9.1. Fenders

Due to the wrap-over design of the hood that encompasses much of the wheelhouse, the front fenders (see Figure 6.9.1-1) are relatively small and basic in design. The fenders are manufactured utilizing stamping or sheet hydroforming. They are mechanically attached to the A-post at the rear. The lower and front openings are mechanically attached to the upper engine cover module. The fenders are common for both vehicle variants.

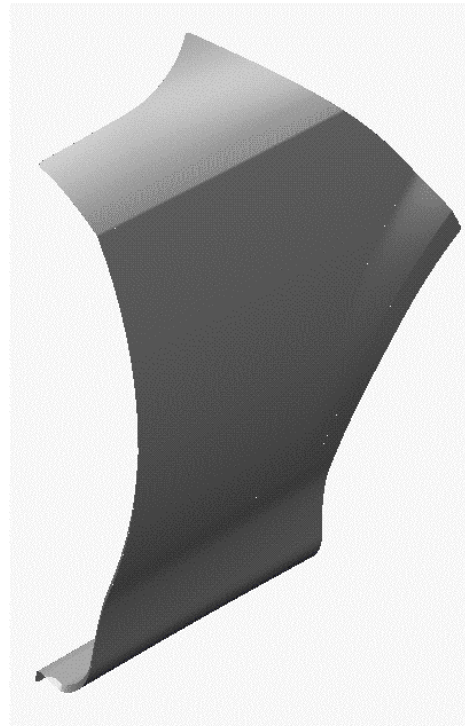


Figure 6.9.1-1 C-Class & PNGV-Class vehicles right side fender

6.9.2. Fuel Filler Lids

The fuel filler lids (see Figure 6.9.2-1) were designed as one-piece stampings, hemmed edges, and flanged according to hinge attachment requirements.

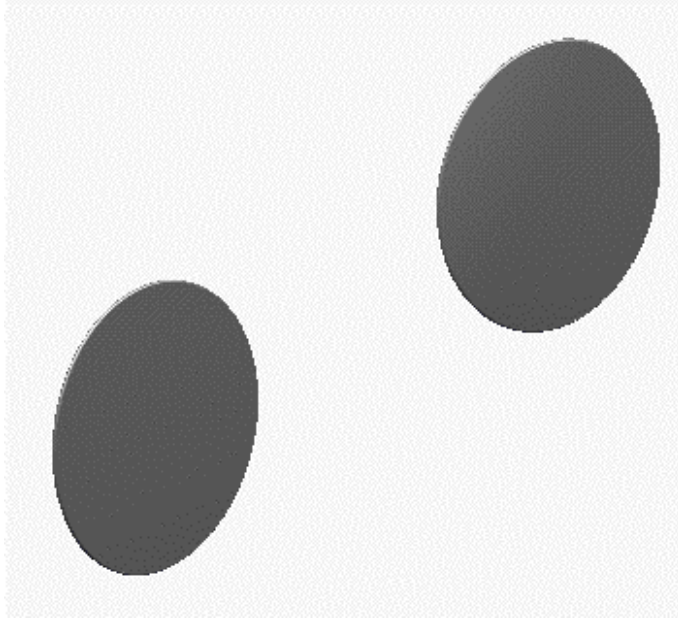


Figure 6.9.2-1 View of C-Class & PNGV-Class fuel filler lids

6.9.3. Roof Side Rail Appliques

In principle, the roof side rail appliques have both functional and decorative purposes.

First, tailor welded blanks are used to manufacture both C-Class and PNGV-Class body side outer panels. Visible laser-welded joints exist on the a-pillar and roof side rail surfaces. In part, the appliques are used to cover the laser-welded joints.

Second, special decorative paint treatments and coatings may be applied to the post body paint shop appliques, thereby providing the customer with exterior trim and color options.

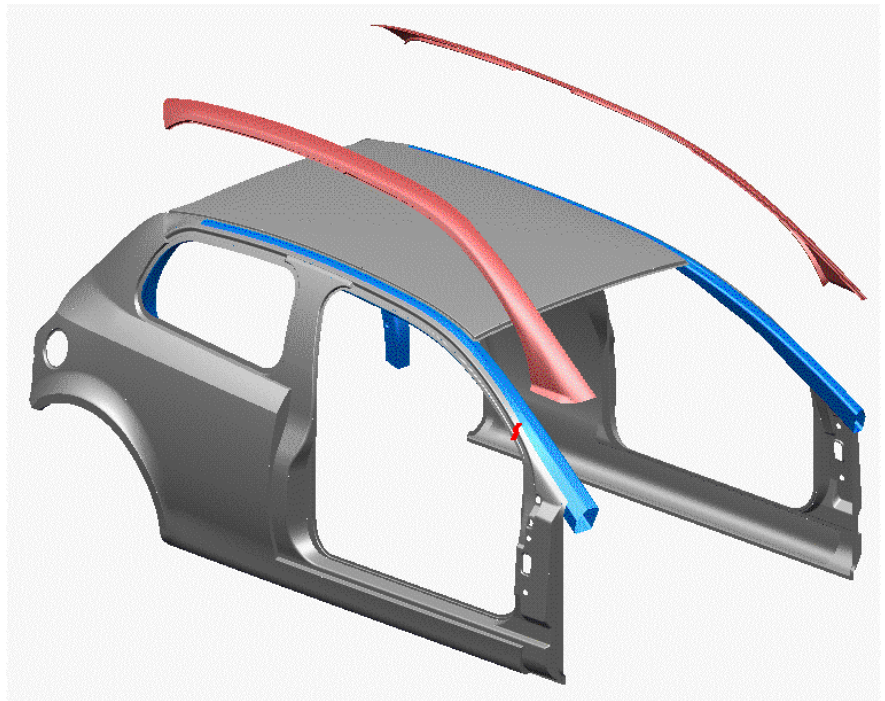


Figure 6.9.3-1 View of C-Class roof side rail appliques exposing the body side outer laser welded joints and roof side rail joints.

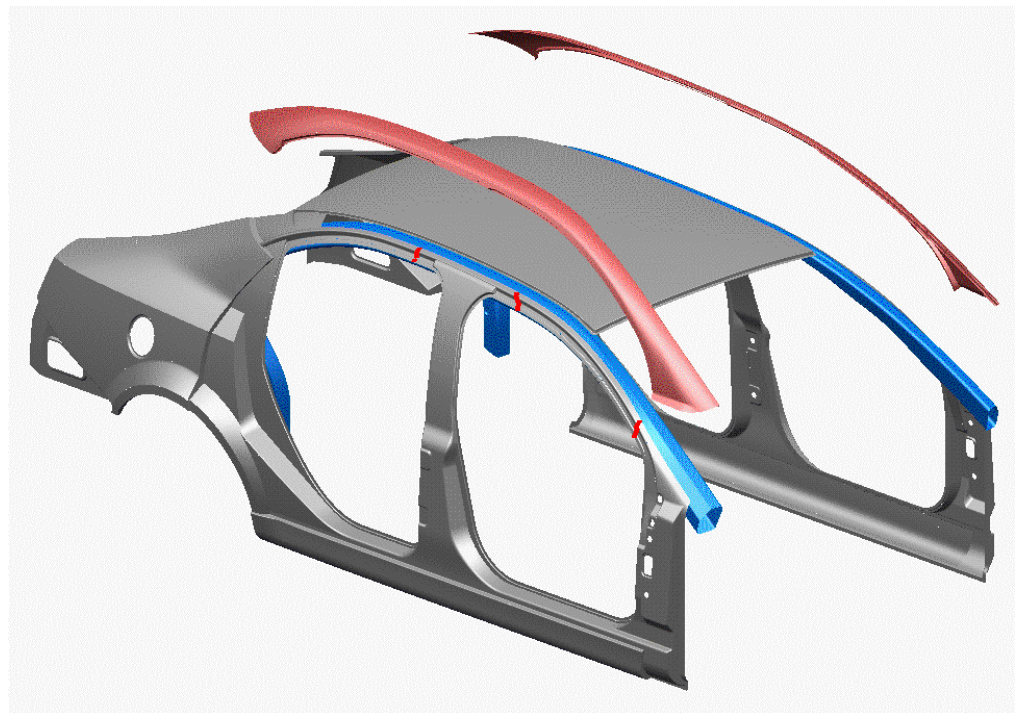


Figure 6.9.3-2 View of PNGV-Class roof side rail appliques exposing the body side outer laser welded joints and roof side rail joints.

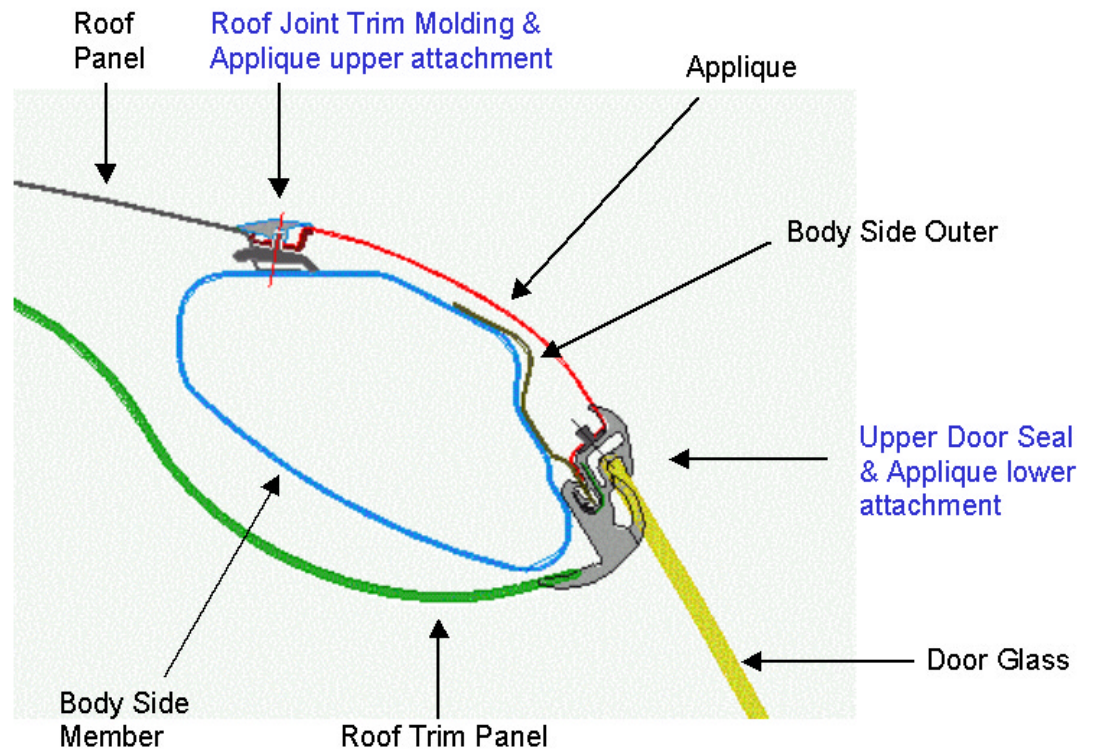


Figure 6.9.3-3 Roof side rail applique section

6.9.4. Engine Service Lid

The engine service lid provides easy access to the engine oil filler, engine coolant filler, and windshield washer liquid filler. Although a separate component, the service lid is integrated into the front of the hood and into the rear of the front fascia module. Manufactured from a one-piece stamping, hemmed edge, and flanged according to hinge attachment requirements, the lid is common for both vehicle variants.

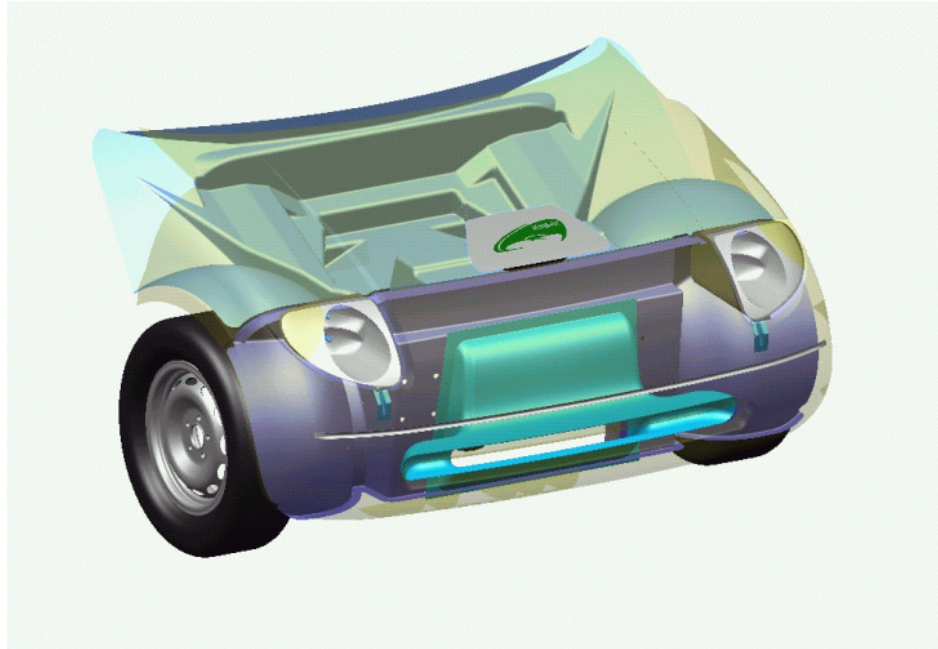


Figure 6.9.4-1 Location of engine service lid (closed)

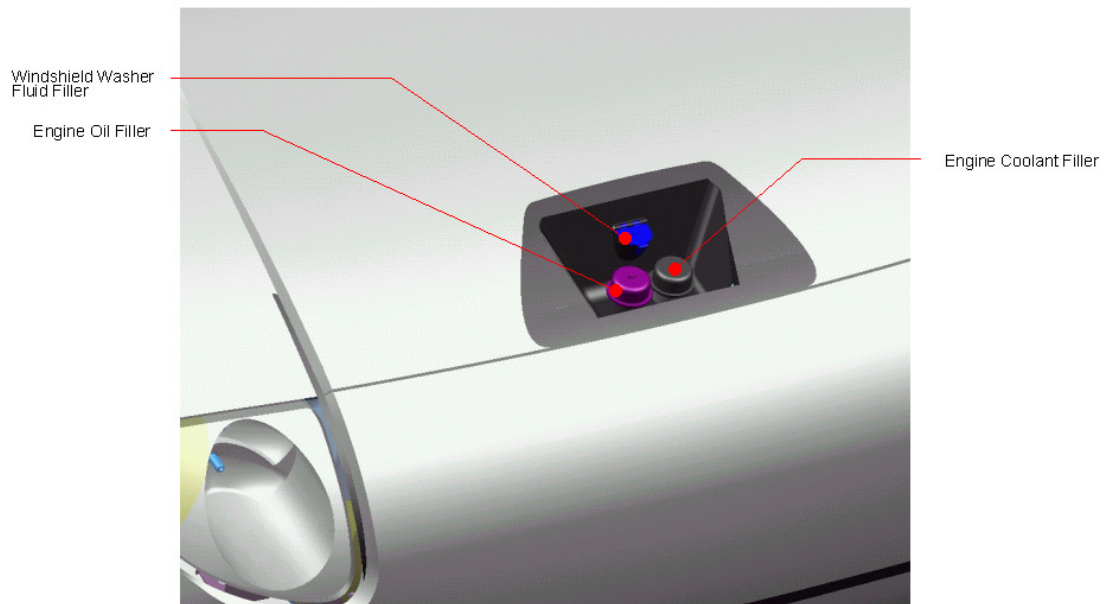


Figure 6.9.4-2 Engine service compartment