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Marina del Rey, Ca.

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

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Jeffrey W. Runge  
U.S. Department of Transportation,  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration,  
Office of Defects Investigation,  
NSA-10.01, 400 7th Street, SW,  
Washington, DC 20590.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY  
TRAFFIC SAFETY ADM.

Reference: Infiniti I35, Radio Display

Dear Mr. Runge:

I lease a 2002 Infiniti I35. The factory standard radio has a display system which Infiniti labels as RDS. If enable by a broadcast station, the display will display a message which the broadcaster programs. In Los Angeles virtually all of the stations have enabled this display in order to transmit advertisements and promotions which scroll and repeat. Due to the dynamic nature of the display, the display is a clearly visible and a distraction when driving the car.

I called Infiniti Customer Service to determine how to disable the RDS system and have the display show the radio stations frequency in a stationary manner. Infiniti informed me that once a station enables the RDS, there is no method to disable it.

This display is a clear and present danger to drivers. I have seen similar displays on other car radios but some have the ability to disable the RDS.

I understand that there is a prohibition against having video displays in view of a driver. Why is this not different. An investigation is warranted here.

Thank you for taking the time to make our roads safer.

Sincerely,

WMB:wp

*Caramari*  
1/10/05