

From: Christopher Tinto/=WDC/Toyota_NY

Sent: 9/5/2008 10:24 AM

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Cc: [-]

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Subject: Fw: NHTSA Denies Tacoma Sudden Acceleration Petition

Best Regards,
Chris

Chris Tinto
Vice President, Toyota Motor NA Inc
Sent from Wireless handheld

From: Chris Santucci
Sent: 09/05/2008 01:20 PM EDT
To: Christopher Tinto; Mark Johnson
Subject: NHTSA Denies Tacoma Sudden Acceleration Petition

On September 3, 2008, NHTSA published the denial of petition DP08-001 in the Federal Register. The petition was brought by William Kronholm after allegedly experiencing two incidents of sudden acceleration, and in it, he requested that the agency formally open a defect investigation. In the Federal Register notice, NHTSA outline's their reasoning for the denial of the petition. According to the notice, NHTSA reviewed the material provided by Toyota and the petitioner, interviewed complainants, and attended a technical demonstration given by Toyota. They tabulate and assess the NHTSA VOQ reports and the complaint reports provided by Toyota. In summary, they note distribution of complaint types to be consistent between the Toyota and NHTSA reports.

Most of the notice details the data analysis and the complainant interviews conducted by NHTSA. In conclusion, they note that about three quarters of the reports involve a failure of the Electronic Throttle Control (ETC) system that did not pose a risk to motor vehicle safety or did not involve a failure of the ETC system at all (i.e., aspects of normal ETC operation). In the end, they note that further investigation is not likely to find a safety related defect with the Tacoma ETC system. Therefore, they decided not to dedicate resources to a formal investigation, and they denied the petition.

Of particular note: NHTSA reports in the notice that during the petitioner's two incidents of sudden acceleration, he was wearing cross country ski boots while operating the vehicle.

Regards,

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