



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 04-040
 Prompted By: Steve Chan (IE 04-027)
 Date Opened: 04/13/2004
 Principal Investigator: Cheryl Tuosto
 Subject: Front Suspension Ball Joint Breakage

Manufacturer: Toyota Motor Sales, USA Inc.
 Products: 2002 MY Toyota Tundra
 Population: 110,600 Estimated

Problem Description: The front suspension ball joint broke while driving resulting in a loss of vehicle control.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	3	0	3
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

*Description Of Other:

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation (PE) has been opened.

Engineer: Cheryl Tuosto CAT

Date: 04/13/2004

Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt

Date: 04/13/2004

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 04/13/2004

Summary: The Office of Defects Investigation has received three (3) complaints alleging that a front suspension ball joint failed while driving causing the driver to lose vehicle control. One complaint specifically cited that the front lower ball joint pulled out of its socket causing the upper ball joint to also break. The other two complaints did not cite whether the lower or upper joint failed first. All three complaints noted that front passenger side suspension collapsed as a result of the ball joint failure.

A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to determine any potential safety-related consequences and the scope of the affected population.

VLT