



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE07-016
Date Opened: 03/29/2007
Principal Investigator: Scott Yon
Subject: Accessory Floor Mat

Manufacturer: Toyota Motor Corporation
Products: MY 2007 Lexus ES350
Population: 80,000 (estimated)

Problem Description: The accessory floor mat interferes with the throttle pedal

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

| | ODI | Manufacturer | Total |
|---------------------|-----|--------------|-------|
| Complaints: | 5 | | |
| Crashes/Fires: | 3 | | |
| Injury Incidents: | 3 | | |
| # Injuries: | 7 | | |
| Fatality Incidents: | 0 | | |
| # Fatalities: | 0 | | |

Action: Open a Preliminary Evaluation

Engineer: D. Scott Yon

Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt

Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary: The subject vehicles come equipped with a standard floor mat made from a carpeted material. Two plastic hooks that are secured to the vehicle flooring are used to retain the mat in its proper position. The vehicle manufacturer also supplies an optional equipment winter floor mat made from a rubberized material (only a portion of the subject vehicles contain winter mats). The hooks used for mat retention will only secure one floor mat at a time, either the winter mat or the carpet mat. The winter mat contains a written statement warning "Do not place on top of existing floor mats." Consumers interviewed by ODI have indicated that the warning was not discernable. If the driver side winter mat is placed (unsecured) on top of the carpet mat it may interfere with the throttle pedal preventing it from returning to the closed position after application and thus increasing the risk of a vehicle crash. A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to investigate this issue.