



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 12-013
Date Opened: 06/04/2012
Investigator: Derek Rinehardt **Reviewer:** Jeff Quandt
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: Rear Suspension Arm Assembly Failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION
Products: MY 2006 - 2008 Toyota RAV4
Population: 460,000 (Estimated)

Problem Description: The left or right rear suspension arm assembly No.1 may fail due to corrosion potentially causing a loss of vehicle control.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	7	TBD	TBD
Crashes/Fires:	0	TBD	TBD
Injury Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Injuries:	0	TBD	TBD
Fatality Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Fatalities:	0	TBD	TBD

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received seven complaints alleging corrosion-related failure of the left or right rear suspension arm assembly No.1, often referred to as a rear "tie rod" in consumer complaints and repair records. Four of these complaints allege the failure occurred while driving at speeds of 35 mph or greater causing a temporary loss of vehicle control. Pictures provided by some complainants show the wheel adjacent to the failed component severely out of wheel alignment with respect to toe and camber. Early Warning Reporting data submitted by Toyota include field reports describing failure of rear suspension arm assembly No. 1 in the subject vehicles. A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the scope, frequency and consequences rear suspension failures in the subject vehicles.

The ODI complaints cited above can be viewed at www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/complaints under the following ODI identification numbers: 10355753, 10402156, 10443333, 10444196, 10448288, 10449116, 10456012.