



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

SEP - 7 2005

CHRIS TINTO  
VICE PRESIDENT  
TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA, INC.  
601 THIRTEENTH STREET, NW., SUITE 910 SOUTH  
WASHINGTON DC 20005

NVS-215  
05V-389

Subject: STEERING RELAY ROD

Dear MR. TINTO:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect or noncompliance information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this is the information that will be made available to the public.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

TOYOTA/4 RUNNER/1989-1995  
TOYOTA/PICKUP/1989-1995  
TOYOTA/T100/1993-1998

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 05V-389

**Mfg's Report Date:** September 6, 2005

**Components:**

STEERING:LINKAGES:ROD:RELAY:CONNECTING

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 977,839

**Summary:**

ON CERTAIN PICKUP TRUCKS AND SPORT UTILITY VEHICLES, IF THE STEERING WHEEL IS REPEATEDLY TURNED UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS WHERE HIGH STEERING EFFORT AND POWER ASSIST ARE REQUIRED, FOR INSTANCE, WHEN FULLY TURNING THE WHEEL WHILE THE VEHICLE IS STOPPED, A FATIGUE CRACK MAY DEVELOP IN THE STEERING RELAY ROD.

**Consequence:**

IF THE VEHICLE IS CONTINUED TO BE OPERATED IN THIS CONDITION, THE RELAY ROD MAY FRACTURE, INCREASING THE RISK OF A CRASH.

**Remedy:**

DEALERS WILL REPLACE THE STEERING RELAY ROD. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING LATE SEPTEMBER 2005. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT TOYOTA AT 1-800-331-4331.

**Notes:**

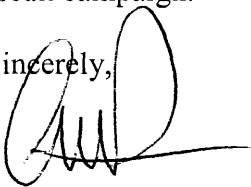
CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin on August 1, 2005. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by October 30, 2005.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at [patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov](mailto:patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov) or [delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov](mailto:delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov). We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



George H. Person  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement