

TOYOTA
TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA, INC.

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February 10, 2005

OSU-050
(5 pages)

Mr. Ronald Medford
Senior Associate Administrator, Vehicle Safety – NVS-010
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: 2005 Toyota Tacoma Parking Brake Pedal Assembly
Part 573, Defect Information Report

DEFECT INFORMATION
RECALLS
2005 FEB 11 12 45 53

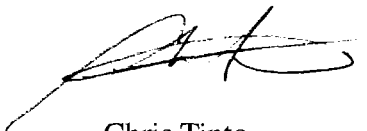
Dear Mr. Medford:

In accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 and 49 CFR Part 573, on behalf of Toyota Motor Corporation ["TMC"], we hereby submit the attached Defect Information Report concerning a voluntary safety recall of certain 2005 model year Toyota Tacoma vehicles to address an issue with the parking brake pedal assembly.

Should you have any questions about this report, please contact Mr. Sid Yokoi or Mr. Chris Santucci at (202) 463-6856.

Sincerely,

TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA, INC.



Chris Tinto
Vice President

CT:cs
Attachment

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Vehicle Manufacturer Name:

New United Motor Manufacturing, Inc. ["NUMMI"]
 45500 Fremont Boulevard
 Fremont, CA 94538-6368, USA

Toyota Motor Manufacturing de Baja California ["TMMBC"]
 Carretera Tejuana Tecate 33143, Carretera Tejuana Tecate Kilometro143 y 144,
 Tijuana, Baja California C.P. 22550, Mexico

Affiliated U.S. Sales Company:

Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc. ["TMS"]
 19001 South Western Avenue
 Torrance, CA 90509, USA

2. Identification of Affected Vehicles:

Based on production records, we have determined the affected vehicle population as in the table below.

Make/ Car Line	Model Year	Plant	VIN*			Production Period
			WMI	VDS	VIS	
Toyota Tacoma	2005	NUMMI	5TE	***2N*	5Z001003-5Z034823	September 13, 2004 through January 10, 2005
		TMMBC	3TM	***2N*	5M001025-5M001185	

Note: (1) Only the automatic transmission vehicles with the foot operated parking brake are affected.

(2) Although the involved vehicles are within the above VIN ranges, not all vehicles in these ranges were sold in the U.S.

Component containing defect: Parking Brake Pedal Assembly

Manufacturer Name: ADVICS North America, Inc. ["ADVICS"]
 Address: 45300 Polaris Ct., Plymouth, MI 48170-6039
 Telephone: (734)-414-5100

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Affected:

22,228

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Experience Malfunction:

Unknown

5. Description of Problem:

For the Toyota Tacoma vehicles produced at NUMMI and TMMBC, the end lock nut (jam nut) of the parking brake operation wire might not secure properly to the parking brake assembly bracket due to insufficient torque control during the assembly process. If the vehicle is driven for an extended period in this condition, the lock nut and the parking brake cable adjusting nut (main nut) could potentially come loose. In the worst case, the lock nut may fall off and the adjusting nut can loosen, which may result in excessive free play in the parking brake pedal. This could lead to insufficient parking brake actuation.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

December 2004 – February 2005

Toyota received field information which indicated that the parking brake lock nut loosened, and caused insufficient parking brake actuation in December.

NUMMI immediately contacted the parking brake assembly supplier (ADVICS) and requested an investigation into the cause of the problem. As a result, it was found there was insufficient tightening torque control during the production process. This allowed the parking brake lock nut to loosen after the vehicle had been driven an extended period. Changes to the lock nut tightening process have been implemented to eliminate future occurrences.

Toyota investigated the affected range of vehicles and the assembly process. Based on the production records, Toyota identified the vehicles on which the affected parking brake assembly might have been installed since September 13, 2004.

Based on the above investigation, Toyota decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall of all vehicles in the affected range. This safety recall will also be conducted in Canada and Mexico.

7. Description of Corrective Repair Action:

All known owners of the subject vehicles will be notified by first class mail to return their vehicles to a Toyota dealer for inspection of the parking brake pedal and the lock nut tightening torque. The parking brake lock nut will be re-tightened to the proper torque and/or the pedal cable will be adjusted, if necessary.

Reimbursement Plan for pre-notification remedies

The vehicles involved were built between September 2004 and January 2005. As the owner notification letters will be mailed out well within the active period of the Toyota New Vehicle Limited Warranty (“Warranty”), all involved vehicle owners for this recall would have been provided a repair at no cost under the Toyota Warranty.

8. Recall Schedule:

Mailing of the dealer notifications will commence during late February and be completed early March 2005.

Mailing of the owner notifications will commence during late March and be completed early April 2005.

Copies of the owner notification and dealer instructions will be submitted as soon as they are available.

Web Release Date: March 1, 2005

Make: TOYOTA	Model: Tacoma	Year: Early 2005
NHTSA CAMPAIGN ID Number: _____	Recall Date: February 10, 2005	
Component:		
Potential Number of Units Affected: Approximately 21,500		
Manufactured: This condition only affects certain early 2005 model year Tacoma vehicles equipped with an Automatic Transmission produced from mid-September, 2004 to early January, 2005.		
Summary: On certain 2005 model year Toyota Tacoma vehicles equipped with an automatic transmission, there is a possibility that the parking brake pedal cable lock nut may not have been tightened to the proper torque specification. In this condition, the lock nut may loosen and come off, which will reduce the effectiveness of the parking brake.		
Consequence: This condition could allow the vehicle to roll if the transmission is not placed into the "park" position and the vehicle is parked on a slope, thus raising the possibility of an accident.		
Remedy: Any Toyota dealer will inspect and tighten the parking brake pedal cable lock nut to the proper torque specification. Owners will be notified in early March, 2005 through early April, 2005. Owners who take their vehicles to an authorized dealer on an agreed upon service date and do not receive the free remedy within a reasonable time should contact Toyota at 1-800-331-4331.		
Note: Customers can also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-DASH-2-DOT (1-888-327-4236).		