**TOYOTA** 

#### TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA, INC.

# WASHINGTON OFFICE 601 THIRTEENTH STREET, NW, SUITE 910 SOUTH, WASHINGTON, DC 20005

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June 30, 2006

Mr. Daniel C. Smith Associate Administrator for Enforcement National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Room 5321 Washington, D.C. 20590 05V-254 (4 pages)

Re:

Toyota Tundra Access Cab Passenger Airbag Cutoff Switch

Part 573, Noncompliance Information Report

Dear Mr. Smith:

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 Noncompliance Information Report concerning certain 2003 through 2005 model year Toyota Tundra vehicles that have a noncompliance issue with the passenger airbag cutoff switch. Toyota plans to provide remedy to the noncompliance based on your denial of our petition for exemption from the notification and remedy requirements of the Act, as received June 23, 2006.

Should you have any questions about this report, please contact Mr. Chris Santucci at (202) 775-1707.

Sincerely,

TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA, INC.

Chris Tinto Vice President

CT:cs Attachment

# NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT

#### 1. Vehicle Manufacturer Name:

Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana, Inc. ["TMMI"] 4000 Tulip Tree Drive Princeton, IN, 47670

#### Affiliated U.S. Sales Company:

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

#### 2. <u>Identification of Affected Vehicles:</u>

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

Make/	Model	Manufa-	VIN			Production
Car Line	Year	cturer	WMI	VDS	VIS	Period
Toyota/ Tundra	2003 through 2005	TMMI	5TB	BN441, BT441, BT481, RN341, RT341, RT381, RU341	3S339193 through 5S468966	September 1, 2002 through April 22, 2005

Note: Although all of the involved vehicles are within the above VIN range, not all of the vehicles in this range were sold in the U.S.

### 3. <u>Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Affected</u>:

157,199

# 4. <u>Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Experience Noncompliance:</u>

100 %

### 5. <u>Description of Noncompliance</u>:

The subject access cab vehicles have a manual air bag on-off switch to disable the front passenger air bag and do not have a child restraint lower anchorage system in the front passenger seat. This specification does not meet the requirement outlined in S5(c)(2) of FMVSS225.

#### 6. Test results and other information

S5(c)(2) requires that "Each vehicle that- (i) Has a rear designated seating position and meets the conditions in S4.5.4.1(b) of Standard No. 208 (Sec. 571.208); and, (ii) Has an air bag on-off switch meeting the requirements of S4.5.4 of Standard 208 (Sec. 571.208), shall have a child restraint anchorage system for a designated passenger seating position in the front seat, instead of a child restraint anchorage system that is required for the rear seat. ..." The specification of the subject access cab vehicles does not meet the requirement as described in the table below.

	Requirement	Specification of the subject vehicles
1	Rear designated seating position	3 Positions
2	Air bag on-off switch	Equipped
3	Child restraint anchorage system for a designated passenger seating position in the front seat	Not equipped

# 7. <u>Description of Corrective Repair Action</u>:

All known owners of the affected vehicles will be notified by first class mail to return their vehicles to a Toyota dealer to remove the manual air bag on-off switch, replace the owner's manual, and affix a new sun visor air bag warning label.

## Reimbursement Plan for pre-notification remedies:

The owner letter will instruct vehicle owners that have had the Front Passenger Manual Airbag On-Off Switch for the front passenger airbag removed prior to this campaign to seek reimbursement by mailing a copy of their repair order, proof-of-payment, and proof-of-ownership for reimbursement consideration.

- (i) The beginning date of the Toyota reimbursement plan will be: The reimbursement plan will cover repairs made no earlier than September, 2002, when the first vehicles were manufactured.
- (ii) The ending date of Toyota reimbursement plan will be:

  The ending date shall be at least 10 calendar days after the date on which the last owner notification was mailed, however Toyota will further review requests for reimbursement from involved vehicle owners on a case-by-case basis.

- (iii) Toyota may exclude reimbursement, if:
  - a. the pre-notification repair was not of the same type (repair, replacement, or refund of purchase price) as the recall remedy;
  - the pre-notification repair was not reasonably necessary to correct the defect or noncompliance that led to the recall or a manifestation of the defect or noncompliance;
  - c. the pre-notification remedy was not reasonably necessary to correct the defect or noncompliance; or;
  - d. the repair was conducted as a result of vehicle accident, debris or another reason not specifically related to the defect or noncompliance.
- (iv) Toyota will reimburse eligible customers for at least the cost of the labor to remove the Front Passenger Manual Airbag On-Off Switch. Other costs may be reimbursed on a case-by-case basis.
- (v) Owners requesting reimbursement must submit the appropriate documentation: repair order, reason for replacement, proof-of-payment, and proof-of-ownership to Toyota for reimbursement consideration.

#### 8. Recall Schedule:

Mailing of the owner notifications will commence in late September, 2006 and will be completed in early November, 2006.

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

# 9. <u>Distributor/Dealer Notification Schedule:</u>

Notifications to distributors/dealers will be sent in mid September, 2006.