

U.S. Department of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW Washington, DC 20590

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

April 6, 2006

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

NVS-215 06V-096

Subject: AIR BAG INFLATOR

Dear MR. TINTO:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

### Makes/Models/Model Years:

LEXUS/GS/2006 LEXUS/IS/2006 LEXUS/LS/2004-2006 TOYOTA/AVALON/2005-2006 TOYOTA/CAMRY/2007 TOYOTA/PRIUS/2004-2006 TOYOTA/RAV4/2005 TOYOTA/SCION IC/2005-2006 TOYOTA/TACOMA/2005-2006

NHTSA Campaign Number: 06V-096

Mfg's Report Date: March 28, 2006

**Components:** AIR BAGS

**Potential Number of Units Affected: 133** 

## **Summary:**

ON CERTAIN VEHICLES, DUE TO IMPROPER ASSEMBLY OF THE AIR BAG INFLATOR, WHICH IS USED IN THE SIDE AIR BAG, THE CURTAIN SHIELD AIR BAG, AND THE KNEE AIR BAG ASSEMBLY, SOME INFLATORS WERE PRODUCED WITH AN INSUFFICIENT AMOUNT OF THE HEATING AGENTS NECESSARY FOR PROPER AIR BAG DEPLOYMENT. IN THIS CONDITION, THE EXPANSION FORCE OF THE GAS MAY BE INSUFFICIENT TO PROPERLY INFLATE THE AIR BAG WHEN THE SRS SYSTEM IS ACTIVATED DURING A CRASH.

# Consequence:

THIS MAY INCREASE THE RISK OF INJURY TO THE OCCUPANT IN THE INVOLVED SEATING POSITION IN THE EVENT OF A CRASH.

## Remedy:

DEALERS WILL REPLACE THE SPECIFIC SRS AIR BAG. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING APRIL 2006. OWNERS MAY CONTACT TOYOTA AT 1-888-270-9371, SCION AT 1-866-548-1851, OR LEXUS AT 1-800-255-3987.

#### Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY 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.

The information in your defect report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

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 required 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 during April 2006. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before July 30, 2006.

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 <a href="mailto:patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov">patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov</a> or <a href="mailto:delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov">delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov</a>. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

George H. Person

Chief, Recall Management Division

Office of Defects Investigation

Enforcement

Sincerely,