

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Vehicles  
**PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports<sup>1</sup>**

On January 12, 2007, Southeast Toyota Distributor, LLC., the authorized Toyota Distributor in the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina. decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety)(a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. (TBD) ) exits in the motor vehicles listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 **Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports**.

Date this report was prepared: January 16, 2007 \_\_\_\_\_

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer of the vehicle being recalled. If the recalled vehicle is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.**

Southeast Toyota Distributors, LLC.

100 Jim Moran Blvd.

Deerfield Beach, Fl. 33442

**Identify the corporate official, by name and title, whom the agency should contact with respect to this recall.**

L. Taylor Ward III

Vice President & General Counsel

**Telephone Number:** (954)429-2242 **Fax No.:** (954)429-2195

**Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.**

Roger Blandford

Manager Product Support

**Signed:**

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<sup>1</sup> Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Enforcement, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. George Person at (202) 366-5210 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

**I. Identify the Vehicle Models Involved in the Recall**

**2. Identify the Vehicles Involved in the Recall, for each make and model or applicable vehicle line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the vehicle), provide:**

**Make(s):** Scion **Model Years Involved:** 2006-07 **Model(s):** xA and xB

**Production Dates: Beginning:** Sept 1, 2006 **Ending:** January 16, 2007

**VIN Range: Beginning:** JTKKT624465008058 **Ending:** JTLKT334X64124475

**Vehicle Type:** Scion **Bodystyle:** xA and xB models

**Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:**

Recall involves vehicle fitted with cruise controls at Southeast Toyota's Vehicle

Processing Center in Jacksonville, Fl. Vehicles sold with Sales Option code YR1.

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**Make(s):** Scion **Model Years Involved:** 2006-2007 **Model(s):** xA and xB

**Production Dates: Beginning:** N/A **Ending:** N/A

**VIN Range: Beginning:** N/A **Ending:** N/A

**Vehicle Type:** Scion **Bodystyle:** xA and xB

**Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:**

Rostra Cruise Control Kits (Part no 00016-79910) Sold by Toyota Dealers in Southeast

Toyota's region (Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Alabama),

through their parts department for installation on new or used 2006-2007 Scion xA or xB vehicles.

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**Make(s):** Scion **Model Years Involved:** 2006-2007 **Model(s):** xA and xB

**Production Dates: Beginning:** N/A **Ending:** N/A

**VIN Range: Beginning:** N/A **Ending:** N/A

**Vehicle Type:** Scion **Bodystyle:** xA and xB

**Descriptive information which characterizes/distinguishes the recalled vehicles from those model vehicles not included in the recall:**

Rostra Cruise Control Regulator (Part no 00016-79910-01) Sold by Toyota Dealers in

Southeast Toyota's region (Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and

Alabama), through their parts department for installation on new or used 2006-2007  
Scion xA or xB vehicles.

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Identify the approximate percentage of the production of all the recalled models manufactured by your company between the inclusive dates of manufacture provided above, that the recalled model population represents. For example, if the recall involved Widgets equipped with certain items of equipment from January 1, 1996 through April 1, 1997, then what was the percentage of the recalled Widgets of all Widgets manufactured during that time period. TBD

## **II. Identify the Recall Population**

3. Furnish the total number of vehicles recalled potentially containing the defect or noncompliance.

<b>Vehicles</b>		<b>Number of</b>
<b><u>Model</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Potentially</u></b>
<b><u>Involved</u></b>		
Scion xA and xB	2006-2007	716

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Total Number Potentially Affected by the  
Recall: 716

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of vehicles estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: 3.2%

Identify and describe how the recall population was determined--in particular how the recalled models were selected and the basis for the beginning and final dates of manufacture of the recalled vehicles:

The population was determined based on clutch lot receipt and usage dates, and quarantine date of defective component. This was compared against shipments to Southeast Toyota and their installation dates, and production usage. \_\_\_\_\_

### **III. Describe the Defect or Noncompliance**

**5. Describe the defect or noncompliance. The description should address the nature and physical location of the defect or noncompliance. Illustrations should be provided as appropriate.**

Residual magnetism of electromagnetic clutch in cruise control module retains some magnetism when turned off. In the defective parts, the force generated by this residual magnetism is larger than the force of the throttle return.

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**Describe the cause(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.**

Variation in metallurgy and process history of steel used to product the clutch assembly affects the residual magnetism of the clutch assembly. In vehicles containing the defect the level of residual magnetism was higher than in the past.

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**Describe the consequence(s) of the defect or noncompliance condition.**

If the residual magnetism force is greater than throttle return force, when the cruise control is engaged and the on/off switch is pressed once, the throttle may not return to idle. When the on/off switch is depressed a second time, the throttle will return to idle.

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**Identify any warning which can (a) precede or (b) occur.**

Slow release of throttle when cruise control is turned off.

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**If the defect or noncompliance is in a component or assembly purchased from a supplier, identify the supplier by corporate name and address.**

Rostra Precision Controls, Inc.

2519 Dana Dr.

Laurinburg, N.C. 28352

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**Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier:**

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VP Engineering and Quality

Rostra Precision Controls, Inc.

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#### **IV. Provide the Chronology in Determining the Defect/Noncompliance**

*If the recall is for a defect, complete item 6, otherwise item 7.*

**6. With respect to a defect, furnish a chronological summary (including dates) of all the principle events that were the basis for the determination of the defect. The summary should include, but not be limited to, the number of reports, accidents, injuries, fatalities, and warranty claims.**

1/2/07 Rostra was informed by Gulf States Toyota ("GST") of a warranty claim on a Rostra cruise control unit which had been installed by GST. The claim was that the cruise control did not release when the brake was applied.

1/2/07 SET, Port found a cruise unit that appeared to be sticking. Regulator replaced and defective part returned to Rostra for evaluation

1/4/07 Rostra was informed by Southeast Toyota ("SET") that a Rostra cruise control unit tested by SET on their dynamometer installation verification test was found to be sticking.

1/5/07 Rostra found that the cruise control unit which had been returned by GST functioned properly with a brake release (i.e., when the unit was "on" and the brake was depressed). Rostra and GST jointly decided that GST would install the unit in a vehicle at GST.

1/9/06 GST installed the unit described above and found that, while the unit would release from normal operation when the brake was depressed, it did not do so when the cruise control was turned off (i.e., if the "On/Off" switch was pressed before the brake was depressed).

1/10/06 Rostra measured the units returned by GST and SET and determined that the residual magnetism force was greater than the design intent.

1/10/07 SET, was Notified By GST regarding problem they were having with Cruise Control

1/11/07 SET, Road tested 2 Scions to attempt to duplicate concern. No trouble found

1/11/07 SET, Searched Customer Relations Cases, Tech Cases and warranty data for any reported problems. None reported

1/12/06 Rostra reviewed the following summary: 1 confirmed dynamometer failure (the SET unit described above), 2 reported but not confirmed dynamometer failures, 1 confirmed warranty return (the GST unit described above), 1 unconfirmed warranty claim with similar symptoms, and preliminary data pointing to excessive residual magnetism on multiple clutches. Rostra concluded that a defect exists and will be reported.

1/12/07 SET, Placed a stop sales on Cruise control kits (00016-79910) sold over the parts counter

1/12/07 SET, Port found a 2nd unit with a sticking cruise control

1/12/07 SET, Placed a stop ship on Scions with Cruise control kits installed at Port

1/15/07 SET, Stop Sale placed on 00016-79910-01 regulator sold by Parts Department

1/15/07	SET, Issued a stop on cruise installations at the Port
1/16/07	SET, Inventory inspected and purged at Port and Parts Warehouse by Rostra Corp
1/22/2007	SET, Audited the Dealers inventory for all in stock cruise controls with 00016-79910 part no and returned them to Rostra for Certification.
1/22/2007	SET, Audited the dealer parts sales for part no 00016-79910 and searched repair orders and counter slips to determine Vehicle Identification and owner name and address of cruise controls units sold by dealers.

**7. With respect to a noncompliance, identify and provide the test results or other data (in chronological order and including dates) on which the noncompliance was determined.**

Not Applicable

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#### **V. Identify the Remedy**

**8. A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance. This program shall include a plan for reimbursing an owner or purchaser who incurred costs to obtain a remedy for the problem addressed by the recall within a reasonable time in advance of the manufacturer's notification of owners, purchasers and dealers, in accordance with §573.13 of this part. A manufacturer's plan may incorporate by reference a general reimbursement plan it previously submitted to NHTSA, together with information specific to the individual recall. Information required by §573.13 that is not in a general reimbursement plan shall be submitted in the manufacturer's report to NHTSA under this section. If a manufacturer submits one or more general reimbursement plans, the manufacturer shall update each plan every two years, in accordance with §573.13. The manufacturer's remedy program and reimbursement plans will be available for inspection by the public at NHTSA headquarters.**

Inspect date code on the cruise module and if within the date range, Replace cruise control modules with units that have been verified to have acceptable residual magnetism forces. All vehicles will be roadtested for proper operation of the cruise prior to return of vehicle to owner.

Repair to be done by Toyota Dealers in Southeast Toyotas' region (Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Alabama) at no cost to the customer. If the customer is located outside Southeast Toyotas' region the customer is asked in the customer letter to call Southeast Toyota Customer Assistance Center (800-301-6859). Arrangements will

be made for the customer to take it to the nearest Toyota Dealer and Southeast Toyota will reimburse the dealer for inspection and/or repair of the cruise control. The customer will not be charged for any of the repair.

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**9. Furnish a description of the manufacturer's remedy for the defect or noncompliance. Clearly describe the differences between the recall condition and the remedy.**

Inspect cruise control modules installed on the vehicles for build date code and replace units within the date code with units that have been verified to have acceptable residual magnetism forces.

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**Clearly describe the distinguishing characteristics of the remedy component/assembly versus the recalled component/assembly.**

Date code of assembled cruise control modules that contain the electromagnetic clutch.

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**Identify and describe how and when the recall condition was corrected in production. If the production remedy was identical to the recall remedy in the field, so state. If the product was discontinued, so state.**

A process improvement was implemented at Rostra Precision Controls on 1/16/2007 to check 100% of the residual magnetic force of the module. Any module that does not meet the requirements is rejected.

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**VI. Identify the Recall Schedule**

**10. Furnish a schedule or agenda (with specific dates) for notification to other manufacturers, dealers/retailers, and purchasers. Please, identify any foreseeable problems with implementing the recall.**

TBD

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## **VII. Furnish Recall Communications**

**11. Furnish a final copy of all notices, bulletins, and other communications that relate directly to the defect or noncompliance and which are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, or purchaser. This includes all communications (including both original and follow-up) concerning this recall from the time your company determines the defect or noncompliance condition on, not just the initial notification. *A DRAFT copy of the notification documents should be submitted to this office by Fax (202-366-7882) for review prior to mailing.***

**Note that these documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 579.5 requirements.**