

**TOYOTA**  
**TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA, INC.**

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July 24, 2007

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.

Mr. Daniel C. Smith  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

07V-324  
(4 Pages)

Re: 2007 MY Toyota Tacoma Rear Propeller Shaft  
Part 573, Defect Information Report

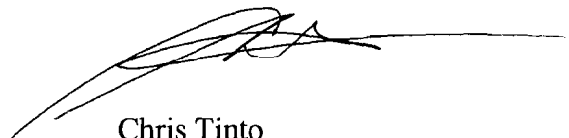
Dear Mr. Smith:

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 Defect Information Report concerning a voluntary safety recall of certain Toyota Tacoma vehicles to address an issue with the rear propeller shaft.

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  
Technical & Regulatory Affairs

CT:cs  
Attachment

# DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Vehicle Manufacturer Name:

Toyota Motor Manufacturing California, Inc. ["TMMCA"]  
45500 Fremont Boulevard  
Fremont, CA, 94538

Fabricating Manufacturer

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

Affiliated U.S. Sales Company

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

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	Manufac- turer	VIN		Production Period
			VDS	VIS	
Toyota/ Tacoma	2007	TMMCA	LU42N	7Z439687 – 7Z442120	May 30, 2007 through June 4, 2007
			MU52N	7Z439951 – 7Z442144	
			PX42N	7Z441336 – 7Z441486	
			UU42N	7Z440136 – 7Z442017	
			UX42N	7Z439909 – 7Z442216	

Note: (1) Only specific 108 vehicles equipped with four wheel drive are affected.

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

[Tier 1 Supplier]

Component Containing Defect : Rear Propeller Shaft

Manufacturer Name : DANA Corporation

Address : 3939 Technology Drive, Maumee, OH 43537

Telephone : 419-887-3498

[Tier 2 Supplier]

Component Containing Defect : Slip Yoke

Manufacturer Name : Citation Corporation

Address : 2700 Corporate Dr., Suite 100, Birmingham, AL 35242

Telephone : 205-871-5731

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Affected:

108

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Experience Malfunction:

Unknown

5. Description of Problem:

In the propeller shaft of certain Tacoma vehicles equipped with four wheel drive, due to the improper casting of the slip yoke, there is a possibility that the yoke may break, causing the front side of the propeller shaft to separate at the joint and come into contact with the road surface which, in the worst case, could result in a loss of vehicle control.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

End of May 2007 – Mid July 2007

The Tier 2 supplier, Citation Corporation, which manufactures the slip yoke of the propeller shaft installed on the Tacoma vehicles, discovered an abnormality on the surface of the slip yoke for the Tacoma vehicles equipped with four wheel drive. Citation Corporation informed the Tier 1 supplier, which assembles the propeller shaft, and NUMMI. The Tier 2 supplier immediately began an investigation of the cause of the problem. It was determined that a change in the ceramic coating of the lost foam molds for casting to improve the surface condition of the outer surface of the slip yoke, which was implemented in early-May 2007, increased its permeability, which could affect the material flow during the casting process. In this condition, there is a possibility that a void may be created in the cast yoke.

Certain strength tests (static and fatigue tests) were conducted by the Tier 1 supplier using slip yokes containing a void. As a result, it was confirmed that some slip yokes could not meet the internal criteria of a specific fatigue test.

Mid July 2007

As a result of the investigation above, Toyota decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall of all vehicles with the suspected propeller shaft within the affected range.

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 any Toyota dealer for a replacement of the propeller shaft.

### Reimbursement Plan for pre-notification remedies

The vehicles involved were produced between May 30, 2007 and June 4, 2007. 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’s Warranty.

8. Recall Schedule:

Mailing of the owner notifications will commence and be completed in early August 2007.

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

9. Distributor/Dealer Notification Schedule:

Notifications to distributors/dealers will be sent in late July 2007.