

Safety Defect and Noncompliance Report Guide for Equipment
PART 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report Form

**08E-029
(13 pages)**

On February 22, 2008, Southeast Toyota Distributors, LLC decided that (a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety) exists in items of motor vehicle equipment listed below, and is furnishing notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Reports.

Date this report was prepared: February 22, 2008.

Furnish the manufacturer's identification code for this recall (if applicable):
NHTSA assigned no. is (Number TBD)

I. Identify the full corporate name of the fabricating manufacturer/brand name/trademark owner of the recalled item of equipment. If the recalled item of equipment is imported, provide the name and mailing address of the designated agent as prescribed by 49 U.S.C. §30164.

Southeast Toyota Distributors, LLC ("SET")
100 Jim Moran Boulevard
Deerfield Beach, Florida 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
Southeast Toyota Distributors, LLC ("SET")
Ph: (954) 429-2242

Name and Title of Person who prepared this report.

Roger Blandford
Manager Product Support
Telephone: (904) 378-4832 Fax: (904)419-5981

Signed:

RECEIVED
2008 MARCH 31
OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION
RECALL MGMT DIV.

I. Identify the Recalled Items of Equipment

2. Identify the Items of Equipment Involved in this Recall, for each make and model or applicable item of equipment product line (provide illustrations or photographs as necessary to describe the item of equipment), provide:

Generic name of the item:

Make: Model: Enkei 18" Wheel Nuts

Part Number: Size:

Function: Used to retain wheels on vehicle.

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

- 18" Enkei alloy wheels part no. 00041-34600 sold by Southeast Toyota to Toyota dealers in Southeast Toyota's region (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina) from February 1, 2007 through April 1, 2007 for installation on 2007 Toyota Tundra model vehicles.

Make: Model: 20" BBS Wheel Nuts

Part Number: Size:

Function: Used to retain wheels on vehicle

Other information which characterizes/distinguishes the items of equipment to be recalled:

- 20" BBS alloy wheels part no. 00041-34701 sold by Southeast Toyota to Toyota dealers in Southeast Toyota's region (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina) for installation on 2007 Toyota Tundra model vehicles.

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.

Less than 1%.

II. Identifying the Recall Population

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

Model: Toyota Tundra **Year:** 2007 **Number of Items Potentially Involved:** 169 vehicles.

Total Number Potentially Affected by the Recall: 169 vehicles

4. Furnish the approximate percentage of the total number of items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect or noncompliance: less than 1%.

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 items of equipment:

The vehicle recall affects

1. 18" Enkei alloy wheels part no. 00041-34600 sold from February 1, 2007 through April 1, 2007 to Toyota Dealers in Southeast Toyota's region (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina) for installation on 2007 Toyota Tundra model vehicles. Enkei supplied these wheels to Southeast Toyota with wheel nut part no. 00041-34600-HT. April 1, 2007 was selected to ensure the entire population was captured.
2. 20" BBS Alloy wheels part no. 00041-34701 sold from February 1, 2007 through June 8, 2007 to Toyota Dealers in Southeast Toyota's region (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina) for installation on 2007 Toyota Tundra model vehicles. BBS supplied these wheels to SET with wheel nut part no. 00041-34700-01. The final date was determined by the date the replacement wheel nuts were first installed.

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.

When the wheels were installed by a Toyota dealer in Southeast Toyota's region, an alloy tire/wheel upgrade was installed. The upgrade included 4 alloy wheels with attaching wheel nuts. It was determined that the wheel nuts may crack and break if the wheels are not installed carefully or if the wheel nuts are not carefully torqued. This condition can happen at time of wheel installation, tire rotation or service. In the worst case, an accident could happen if a vehicle's wheel nuts are cracked or broken and the wheel becomes loose and falls off the vehicle.

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

The wheel nuts can be overtorqued and break.

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

An accident could happen if a vehicle's wheel has a cracked or broken wheel nut and the wheel becomes loose and falls off the vehicle.

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

The vehicle steering could become erratic and unstable. A growling noise could be heard from the wheel well area.

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

Component assembly was purchased from:

BBS of America, Inc
Attn: John Slagle
5320 BBS Drive
Braselton, Ga 30517
(770)967-9574

Enkei Wheels
c/o JTI
Attn: Jonathon Liby
4720 Salisbury Rd.
Jacksonville, Fl. 32256
(904)493-6068

Both wheel suppliers listed above purchased the same wheel nuts from Bimecc-USA
The original component manufacturer is:

Bimecc Engineering, S.p.A.
Via A. Volta, 18/20/26/28
35030 Veggiano-Z.I., PD
Italy
Phone: 390499048325
Fax: 390499001738
Email Fbada@bimecc.it

US office:
Bimecc USA
14455 Ramona Avenue, Unit A
Chino, Ca. 91710
Phone: 909-614-1822
Fax: 909-614-1343

Identify the name and title of the chief executive officer or knowledgeable representative of the supplier: Bimecc-USA Mr. Luca Carraro
(909)614-1822 FAX (909)614-1343 Email: luca@bimecc-usa.com

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.

There have been no accidents, injuries or fatalities to date due to a crack or break of the wheel nut. The failure has proven to be caused by:

- improper installation of the wheel on the vehicle (not seating the wheel against the hub before tightening the wheel); or
- over torquing of the wheel nuts (not using a torque wrench or installing with an impact wrench).

Date	Subject
2/1/07	Start of processing of 2007 Tundra's with Enkei and BBS wheels.
2/8/07	Report of service technician breaking three wheel nuts in field due to improper installation.
2/9/07	Report of 3 wheel nuts breaking in production due to rushed installation.
2/9/07	SET Quality Assurance submits report on wheel nuts.
2/23/07	SET stops process of wheel installation program pending review.
2/26/07	SET Service Department and SET New Products Department perform testing of wheel nuts. Wheels were installed and destructive testing performed. Testing Results indicated: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If wheels and wheel nuts were properly installed and torqued, no failure occurred.• If wheels were cocked on the hub and the wheel nuts were used to pull wheel tight to hub, a wheel nut failure could occur at a torque setting of 120 ft/lbs. (Torque setting for wheel is 97 ft/lbs torque per manufacturer's guidelines).• Correction measure was to train the production associates and SET field staff, including Product Engineers and Field Technical Specialists, on proper wheel installation procedures.• Requested copy of report from Gulf States Toyota Inc. of report concerning wheel nuts that they had requested from Detroit Testing Labs. .• Requested a more robust wheel nut from wheel manufacturers.
3/08/07	Received courtesy copy of Detroit Testing Laboratory, Inc. wheel nut testing report from Gulf States Toyota, Inc. Tests confirmed SET testing. Detroit Testing Laboratory, Inc. tests showed that if wheels were properly installed, no failure occurred.
3/8/07	Enkei proposed a change in wheel nuts and wheel nut suppliers. The new wheel nut shipment was scheduled to arrive on 3/15/07.
3/17/07	SET began processing replacement wheel nuts on this date for Enkei wheels.

3/17/07 SET Parts Department notified to stop selling BBS wheel nuts to field. All Dealers ordering BBS wheel nuts were advised to contact SET Technical Assistance for Instructions. BBS wheel nut failures were repaired using the new Enkei wheel nut. BBS was unable to find a different wheel nut at this time.

4/17/07 SET Processing Center reports no further failures using the new wheel nuts.

5/10/07 SET received proposed print of revised wheel nut from Enkei.

6/1/07 BBS proposed a wheel nut change on or about June 1, 2007.

06/7/07 Replacement wheel nuts received from BBS. Break Point established as 6/8/07.

10/10/07 Received letter from Bishop Toyota stating wheel nut concern. SET Technical Center investigation found failed original wheel nut due to improper installation.

1/4/08 Received letter from Ft. Myers Toyota stating ongoing wheel nut concerns with old wheel nuts.

1/11/08 Requested warranty analysis of wheel nut campaign expense.

1/15/08 Met with SET management about wheel nut concern. I was advised to gather information and report.

1/16/08 Received warranty analysis of wheel nuts. Old wheel nut failures due to improper installation are indicating an increase.

1/16/08 Discussed wheel nut usage and possible break points with Enkei.

1/16/08 Discussed wheel nut usage and possible break points with SET Vehicle Processing Management. Determined the vehicles involved and break points.

1/16/08 Requested VIN and owner list of vehicles with old wheel nuts.

1/31/08 Furnished vehicle list to management - 169 vehicles involved.

2/1/08 Began compiling campaign paper work.

2/06/08 Discussed wheel nut issue with Enkei. Was advised this was not a problem.

2/7/08 Discussed wheel nut issue with BBS and was referred to Mr. Luca Carrero at Bimecc- USA.

2/8/08 Discussed wheel nut issue with Mr. Carrero and sent information to him. Mr. Carrero requested time to review data.

2/12/08 Received reply from Mr. Carrero with information regarding number of wheel nuts sold to BBS.

2/13/08 Audited list of vehicles involved.

2/16/08 Sent results of audit of vehicle count to Mr. Carrero at Bimecc-USA.

2/17/08 Mr. Carrero replied with several questions.

2/18/08 Sent reply to Mr. Carrero answering his questions.

2/18/08 Conference call with SET management and decision was made to proceed with Part 573 recall procedure.

2/21/08 Submitted draft of customer letter to Ms. Pat Wallace at NHTSA.

2/21/08 Submitted part 573 draft to Ms. Wallace at NHTSA.

2/25/08 Received reply from Ms. Wallace, campaign no.08V-080 is assigned.

2/26/08 Spoke to Mr. Carrero via telephone regarding handling of parts and payment for costs.

2/26/08 Contacted Mr. John Slagle at BBS regarding obtaining parts and payments.

2/27/08 Contacted Jonathon McVety at JTI (BBS representative). Advised that SET is moving forward with the campaign and requested parts.

3/03/08 Received parts quote from John Slagle at BBS. Part no issued for BBBS

3/05/08 Received preliminary quote from Enkei – USA

3/06/08 Received revised price quote from Enkei.

3/07/08 Part no issued for Enkei wheel nut package

3/18/08 Parts list generated and given to parts reps to find customers names and VIN's of vehicles had the wheels installed on.

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.

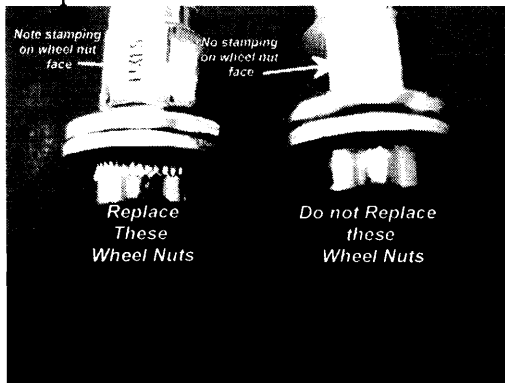
V. Identify the Remedy

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

A new wheel nut is the remedy. This wheel nut is more robust and has been tested under severe applications.

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

The recalled component has a code stamped on the face of the wheel nut (see picture). The remedy component does not have this code.



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.

The wheel nuts were changed in production.

- The wheel nuts for the 18" Enkei wheels were removed and replaced with replacement wheel nuts at the Southeast Toyota Parts Warehouse for sale to Toyota dealers for installation on 2007 Toyota Tundra model vehicles on March 17, 2007.
- The wheel nuts for the 20" BBS wheels were removed and replaced with replacement wheel nuts at the Southeast Toyota Parts Warehouse for sale to Toyota dealers for installation on 2007 Toyota Tundra model vehicles on June 8, 2007.

Production remedy is the same as the recall remedy.

VI. Identify the Recall Schedule

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.

Customer letter will be mailed (Date TBD). Date will be established and the letters will be started as soon as customers and VIN's are determined.

Dealer letter to be mailed (Date TBD)

VII. Furnish Recall Communications

9. 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: These documents are to be submitted separately from those provided in accordance with Part 573.8 requirements.

1. Each manufacturer must furnish a report, to the Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance, for each defect or noncompliance condition which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This guide was developed from 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports" and also outlines information currently requested. Any questions, please consult the complete Part 573 or contact Mr. Jon White at (202) 366-5226 or by FAX at (202) 366-7882.

The Privacy Act of 1974 - Public Law 93-579, As Amended: This information is requested pursuant to the authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administration enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

(Date TBD)

Dear Toyota Customer:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Southeast Toyota Distributors, LLC, has decided that a defect relating to motor vehicle safety exists on certain Toyota vehicles:

- 2007 Toyota Tundra with 18" Southeast Toyota port installed Enkei alloy wheels (option code WN1 and WN4).
- 2007 Toyota Tundra with 20" Southeast Toyota port installed BBS alloy wheels (option code WV1 and WV4).

What is the problem?

- At the Southeast Toyota processing centers in Jacksonville, FL and Commerce, GA, an alloy tire/wheel was installed as an upgrade. The upgrade included 4 alloy wheels with attaching wheel nuts. It has been determined that the wheel nuts may crack and break if the wheels are not installed carefully or if the wheel nuts are not carefully torqued. This condition may occur at time of wheel installation, tire rotation or service.
- An alloy wheel was sold and/or installed by Toyota Dealers in Southeast Toyota region (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina). The alloy wheels are packaged with attaching wheel nuts. It has been determined that the wheel nuts may crack and break if the wheels are not installed carefully or if the wheel nuts are not carefully torqued. This condition may occur at time of wheel installation, tire rotation or service.

In the worst case, an accident could result if a vehicle's wheel has this cracked or broken wheel nut condition and the wheel becomes loose and falls off the vehicle.

What will Southeast Toyota Do?

Any Southeast Toyota Dealer will replace the attaching wheel nuts. This will be done at no cost to you.

What should you do?

Contact any Southeast Toyota Dealer and make an appointment to have the wheel nuts replaced. The time to perform this repair is less than 1 hour. However, depending upon the dealer's work schedule, it may be necessary to make your vehicle available for a longer period of time.

Please present this notice to the Southeast Toyota Dealer when you bring the vehicle in for your service appointment.

If you are not in the Southeast Toyota region (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina) please contact the Southeast Toyota Customer Loyalty Department, 800-301-6859 for repair procedures. If you no longer own the vehicle, please use the enclosed form with pre-stamped envelope providing us with the name and address of the new owner.

What if you have other questions?

If you believe that your dealer or Southeast Toyota Distributors, LLC has failed, or is unable to remedy the defect within a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.”

We have sent you this notice in the interest of your safety and continued satisfaction with our products and sincerely regret any inconvenience this safety recall may cause you.

Sincerely,

Southeast Toyota Distributors, LLC

Re: (Campaign No TBD)