# TOYOTA

**TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA, INC.**

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April 21, 2010

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

Re: 2010 MY Lexus GX460
Part 573, Defect Information Report—Amended
NHTSA Campaign #10V-159

Dear Mr. Smith:

On April 19, 2010 a Defect Information Report was submitted concerning a voluntary recall of certain Lexus GX460 vehicles. There was an error in the description of the test method contained in the parenthetical in the third paragraph of Section 6 of that report. Enclosed is an amended report to correct the error.

Please note that the test method described in the parenthetical in the third paragraph of Section 6 of the April 19 report was also used by Toyota in the investigation that led to this action. This description remains in the amended report.

We apologize for this error. Should you have any questions about this report, please contact me at (202) 775-1707.

Sincerely,
TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA, INC.

for Chris Santucci, Manager
Technical & Regulatory Affairs

CS:mh
Attachment

# DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

Amended 4/21/2010

1. Vehicle Manufacturer Name:

Toyota Motor Corporation. ["TMC"]
1, Toyota-cho, Toyota-city,
Aichi-ken, 471-8571, Japan

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 possible affected vehicle population as in the table below.

| Make/ Car Line | Model Year | Manufac-turer | VIN | | Production Period |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | VDS | VIS | |
| Lexus GX460 | 2010 MY | TMC | BM7FX# | A5000145 ~ A5013347 | November 16, 2009 - April 8, 2010 |
| | | | JM7FX# | A5000143 ~ A5013345 | |

Note: Although the involved vehicles are within the above VIN ranges, not all vehicles in these ranges were sold in the U.S.

No other Lexus or Toyota models sold in the U.S are affected, due to differences in weight balance, front and rear suspension spring hardness, and tire equipment.

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Affected:

2010MY Lexus GX460: Approximately 9,400 units

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Experience Malfunction:

Unknown

5. Description of Problem:

On 2010 Model Year Lexus GX460 vehicles, if the vehicle is driven through a sharp turn at the high speed conditions described below in the procedure outlined in Section 6 of this Report, this could cause the rear tires to slip so that the vehicle slides in a sideways direction. In an extreme case, if the vehicle strikes a curb or slides off pavement, a crash could occur.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

April 8, 2010: TMS was contacted by Consumers Union about a particular emergency avoidance test CU performed on a 2010MY Lexus GX460. CU expressed concern about the performance of the vehicle in their test. Toyota immediately undertook an investigation.

April 9-15, 2010: As part of its investigation, TMC reviewed the protocols used in the development of this model. During development, Toyota conducted and the vehicle model complied with a wide range of internally specified steering and handling tests, including emergency avoidance maneuvers. In addition, the vehicle met or surpassed all requirements of FMVSS-126 relating to electronic stability control systems.

In addition, TMC conducted emergency avoidance testing to attempt to simulate the CU test method, and was able to duplicate similar rear tire slipping described in the CU test result. (The test method was that the vehicle was driven straight ahead until reaching a speed of 60 mph. As the vehicle advanced into a corner with a radius of about 200ft, the speed was held for the first 1/3$^{rd}$ of the corner, and then the driver quickly lifted his foot off the accelerator pedal and did not apply the brake pedal.) TMC also did other testing in which the vehicle was driven straight ahead until reaching a speed of 65mph, at which time the driver lifted his foot off the accelerator pedal. The vehicle then advanced into a corner with a radius of about 200ft, and when the vehicle speed slowed to 55mph, the driver turned the steering wheel sharply without stepping on either the brake pedal or accelerator pedal.

Based on the investigation result, it was found that the activation of the Vehicle Stability Control (VSC) was insufficient at the initiation of tire slippage due to the gentle yaw rate level generated by this model's high suspension performance system known as KDSS(Kinetic Dynamic Suspension System). No other Lexus or Toyota models sold in the U.S are affected, due to differences in weight balance, front and rear suspension spring hardness, and tire equipment.

April 15, 2010: TMC decided to conduct a voluntary recall campaign.

7. Description of Corrective Repair Action:

All known owners of the subject vehicles will be notified by first class mail. Lexus dealers will reprogram the VSC ECU.

Reimbursement Plan for Pre-notification remedies for Toyota

As the owner notification letter will be mailed out well within the active period of the Lexus New Vehicle Limited Warranty ("Warranty"), all involved vehicle owners for this recall would have been provided repair at no cost under the Lexus Warranty.

8. Recall Schedule:

Toyota's mailing of the initial owner notification will commence in the early part of May and will be completed within one month.
Copies of the owner notification and dealer instructions will be submitted as soon as they are available.

9. Distributor/Dealer Notification Schedule:

Toyota's notifications to distributors/dealers will be sent in the beginning of May.