

**RECEIVED**

By Recall Management Division at 11:16 am, Jun 01, 2011

11V-306  
(4 pages)

**TOYOTA**

**TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA, INC.**

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
601 THIRTEENTH STREET, NW, SUITE 910 SOUTH, WASHINGTON, DC 20005

TEL: (202) 775-1700  
FAX: (202) 463-8513

June 1, 2011

Mr. Claude Harris  
Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: 2011 Toyota Sienna and Venza Drive Shaft  
Part 573, Defect Information Report

Dear Mr. Harris:

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 Sienna and Venza vehicles to address an issue with the drive shaft.

Should you have any questions about this report, please contact me at (502) 867-6027.

Sincerely,



Vinnie Venugopal  
General Manager  
Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing  
North America, Inc.

## DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Vehicle Manufacturer Name:

Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Kentucky, Inc. ["TMMK"]  
1001 Cherry Blossom Way Georgetown, KY, 40324

Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana, Inc. ["TMMI"]  
4000 South Tulip Tree Drive, Princeton, IN 47670-4000

Affiliated U.S. Sales Company

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

Manufacturer of Front Drive Shaft Assembly

GKN Driveline Roxboro  
6400 Durham Road, Timberlake, North Carolina 27583, USA  
Telephone: 336-364-6200

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/ Venza (AWD model)	2011	TMMI	BK3BB	U052380 – U052662	March 7, 2011 through March 10, 2011
Toyota/ Sienna (AWD model)	2011	TMMK	#K3DC	S021900 – S022110	March 8, 2011 through March 10, 2011

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

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Affected:

Toyota Venza : 34  
Toyota Sienna : 16  
Total : 50

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect:

76%

5. Description of Problem:

In the right-hand front drive shaft of the subject vehicles, due to an insufficient heat treatment of the drive shaft, there is a possibility that the drive shaft may break. If this occurs, engine power will not be transmitted to the wheels, and the vehicle will coast to a stop.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

On March 11, 2011, Toyota was informed by the supplier that it found an insufficiently heat-treated right-hand front drive shaft during a routine inspection and that similar drive shafts might have been delivered to Toyota. Toyota immediately began investigating this issue with the supplier.

Toyota and the supplier found that the heat treatment of drive shafts produced from February 25, 2011 to March 10, 2011 might have been insufficient. An investigation into the production history revealed that the heat treatment equipment broke down and alternative equipment was used from February 25, 2011 to March 10, 2011. The operating specifications of the alternative equipment were found to have been inadequate.

The supplier conducted durability testing with drive shafts insufficiently heat-treated. It was found that the strength of the tested drive shafts did not meet Toyota's requirements.

Toyota and the supplier investigated in-house drive shafts, including those already installed onto vehicles, and found that there were 38 vehicles equipped with insufficient heat-treated drive shafts that could have been released to dealers.

On May 27, 2011, Toyota decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall on the subject vehicles to replace the insufficiently heat-treated right-hand front drive shaft.

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. The right-hand front drive shaft will be inspected, and, if it is found to be one within the affected lot number, it will be replaced with a new one at no charge.

Reimbursement Plan for pre-notification remedies

As the vehicles are all within the active period of the Toyota New Vehicle Limited Warranty ("Warranty"), any prior repairs associated with this recall would have been provided at no cost under Warranty.

8. Recall Schedule:

Notifications to the owners will be sent in mid-June, 2011. 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 at the beginning of June.