14V-274 (4 pages)

Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing North America, Inc.

Vehicle Safety & Compliance Liaison Office Mail Code: S-104 19001 South Western Avenue Torrance, CA 90501

May 20, 2014

Ms. Nancy Lummen Lewis 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:

FMVSS 207, Seating Systems

Part 573, Noncompliance Information Report

Dear Ms. Lewis:

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 Noncompliance Information Report concerning certain Toyota vehicles that do not meet certain requirements of FMVSS 207.

Should you have any questions about this report, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Abbas Saadat Vice President

Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing

North America, Inc.

Enclosures

Part 573, Noncompliance Information Report

NONCOMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT

1. Vehicle Manufacturer Name:

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

Affiliated U.S. Sales Company

Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc. ["TMS"] 19001 South Western Avenue, Torrance, CA 90501

Manufacturer of Seat Assembly:

Automotive Technology Systems, LLC 100 Trim Masters Drive Lawrenceville, IL 62439 (618) 943-5300

Country of Origin: USA

2. Identification of Involved Vehicles:

Based on production records, we have determined the involved vehicle population is in the table below.

| Make/ | Make/ Model | | VIN | | Production |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------|-------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Car Line | Year | turer | VDS | VIS | Period |
| Toyota/ Highlander | 2014 | TMMI | **RFH | ES007075 – ES042696 | April 23, 2014 – April 29, 2014 |

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

No other Toyota or Lexus vehicles use the same seat track assembly as the subject vehicles.

3. Total Number of Vehicles Involved:

Total: 231

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Experience Noncompliance:

Unknown

5. <u>Description of Noncompliance</u>:

The noncompliance relates to the second row right-hand seat assembly in the subject vehicles equipped with 60/40 split, sliding and reclining fold-flat seating. Due to improper manufacturing, this seat may not fully lock into the inboard seat track in the forward first, second and third adjusting positions. S4.2 of FMVSS No. 207 requires the seat to withstand certain forces in any position to which the seat can be adjusted under specified test conditions. If a seat is not fully locked, this requirement may not be met. Under some conditions, this could increase the risk of an injury to an occupant in the event of a crash.

6. <u>Test Results and Other Information</u>:

In late April 2014, during routine manufacturing inspection of the subject vehicle seat assemblies at the supplier manufacturing facility, the supplier found a seat in which the seat would not fully lock into the inboard seat track in a forward adjusting position. The supplier alerted the vehicle assembly plant. This prompted Toyota to inspect other vehicles in inventory. It was discovered that this condition was present on other vehicles, and an investigation was initiated.

As a result of the investigation, it was determined that the seat would not fully lock into the inboard seat track in the forward first, second, and third adjusting positions. On May 13, 2014 Toyota decided that some vehicles do not meet the requirements of FMVSS 207 S4.2.

7. <u>Description of Corrective Repair Action:</u>

All known owners of the subject vehicles will be notified by first class mail to return their vehicles to a Toyota dealer to have the second row right-hand seat inspected and, if necessary, receive a replacement of the second row right-hand seat with a new one.

Reimbursement Plan for pre-notification remedies

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 Toyota's Warranty.

8. <u>Recall Schedule:</u>

Toyota anticipates the owner notification will begin in mid-June, 2014. Copies of the owner notification letter will be submitted as soon as it is available.

9. <u>Distributor/Dealer Notification Schedule:</u>

Toyota's notification to distributors/dealers along with detailed remedy instructions was sent May 14, 2014. Copies of the dealer communications will be submitted as they are issued.