

Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing North America, Inc.

Vehicle Safety & Compliance Liaison Office 19001 South Western Avenue Torrance, CA 90501

September 18, 2014

#### **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 Tulip Tree Dr., Princeton, IN 47670-4000

Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada Inc. ["TMMC"] 1055 Fountain Street North, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada N3H 5K2

#### Affiliated U.S. Sales Company

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

#### Manufacturer of the Fuel Delivery Pipe

Franklin Precision Industry ["FPI"] 3220 Bowling Green Road, Franklin, KY 42134 Telephone: 270-598-4300

Country of Origin: U.S.A.

# 2. Identification of Involved Vehicles:

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

Make/	Model	Manufac-	VIN		Production
Car Line	Year	turer	VDS	VIS	Period
Toyota/ Avalon	TBD	TMMK	BK1*B	TBD	TBD
Toyota/ Camry	TBD		BK1*K	TBD	TBD
Toyota/ Sienna	TBD	TMMI	*K3DC	TBD	TBD
Toyota/ Highlander	TBD		*KR*H	TBD	TBD
Lexus/ RX350	2015	TMMC	*K1*A	TBD	TBD

Note: Although the involved vehicles are within the above VIN range, not all vehicles in this range were sold in the U.S. Only vehicles equipped with 2GR-FE engines containing the fuel delivery pipe produced by FPI in the above range are involved. No other Toyota or Lexus vehicles use the same fuel delivery pipe as the subject vehicles.

## 3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

**TBD** 

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

Unknown

## 5. <u>Description of Problem:</u>

The end cap on the right-hand (Bank 1) fuel delivery pipe in the engine compartment of the subject vehicles could have been insufficiently welded during manufacturing at the supplier. In this condition, fuel could leak from the fuel delivery pipe and, in the presence of an ignition source, could increase the risk of a vehicle fire.

#### 6. <u>Chronology of Principal Events</u>:

## <u>August 2014</u>

Toyota received a field technical report of a customer complaining of fuel odor from a 2014 Toyota Avalon vehicle after turning off the engine. An inspection of the vehicle revealed that fuel was dripping from the end cap of the right-hand (Bank 1) fuel delivery pipe on the engine. An examination of the fuel delivery pipe revealed that the pipe was produced by FPI and the leak appeared to be the result of insufficient welding of the end cap on the fuel delivery pipe. Toyota launched an investigation. During this time, Toyota received one additional field technical report from the Canadian market and 3 dealer field reports on fuel delivery pipes produced by FPI.

#### September 2014

Toyota undertook an on-site investigation at the supplier to confirm the manufacturing process. The supplier's maintenance records indicated that on April 28, 2014, the cooling air hose for the manufacturing jig used in the welding process for the right-hand fuel delivery pipe end cap was left disconnected during routine maintenance of the jig. The hose was reconnected on April 30, 2014. During the visit to the supplier, Toyota was able to confirm duplication of the insufficient weld when the cooling air hose was left disconnected during manufacturing.

Toyota also visited another supplier in Japan who produces the same fuel delivery pipes used in 2GR-FE engines installed in the subject vehicles and no problems were found in the manufacturing process.

#### <u>September 12, 2014</u>

After completing its investigation, Toyota decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall campaign on the subject vehicles to replace the fuel delivery pipe produced by FPI.

As of September 12, 2014, Toyota is not aware of any fires or injuries caused by this condition. One Toyota field report, three dealer field reports, and three warranty claims have been received that relate or may relate to this condition. Multiple counts of the same incident are counted separately.

#### 7. Description of Corrective Repair Action:

Toyota will notify owners of vehicles by first class mail and request them to return their vehicles to the dealership for inspection of the fuel delivery pipe. If the fuel delivery pipe is found to be produced by FPI, the technicians will replace the fuel delivery pipe 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>:

Notifications to owners will begin in early November. A copy of the draft owner notification letter(s) will be submitted as soon as it is available.

#### 9. Distributor/Dealer Notification Schedule:

Notifications to distributors/dealers were sent on September 17, 2014. Copies of dealer communications will be submitted as they are issued.