

U.S. Department of Transportation

# National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

June 8, 2016

Mr. Adam Pertschy Accessory Warranty Supervisor Southeast Toyota Distributors, LLC 9983 Pritchard Rd Jacksonville, FL 32119

Subject: Seat Heater Electrical Wiring

Dear Mr. Pertschy:

This letter serves to acknowledge Southeast Toyota Distributors, LLC's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

#### Makes/Models/Model Years:

TOYOTA/4RUNNER/2005-2011
TOYOTA/AVALON/2005-2010
TOYOTA/CAMRY/1988-1990, 2005-2010
TOYOTA/CAMRY SOLARA/2006-2008
TOYOTA/COROLLA/1989, 2009-2010
TOYOTA/FJ CRUISER/2007-2010
TOYOTA/HIGHLANDER/2005-2011
TOYOTA/PRIUS/2010-2012
TOYOTA/SEQUOIA/2005-2011
TOYOTA/SIENNA/2005-2011
TOYOTA/TACOMA/2006-2011
TOYOTA/TUNDRA/2005-2010
TOYOTA/VENZA/2009-2010

Mfr's Report Date: June 1, 2016

NHTSA Campaign Number: 16V-396

**Components:** 

SEATS:FRONT ASSEMBLY:SEAT HEATER/COOLER

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 7,749

## **Problem Description:**

Southeast Toyota Distributors, LLC (SET) is recalling certain 2005-2011 4Runner, Highlander, Sequoia, and Sienna, 2005-2010 Avalon and Tundra, 2006-2008 Camry Solara, 2006-2011 Rav4 and Tacoma, 2007-2010 FJ Cruiser, 2009-2010 Venza, 2010-2012 Prius, 1988-1990 and 2005-2010 Camry, and 1989 and 2009-2010 Corolla vehicles equipped with aftermarket accessory seat heaters with a copper strand heating element. The electrical wiring in the seat heaters may be damaged when the seat cushion is compressed.



NEF-150SM

16V-396



### **Consequence:**

If damaged, the copper strand heating element may short circuit, increasing the risk of a fire.

### Remedy:

SET will notify owners, and dealers will disconnect the seat heaters, free of charge, and refund the purchase price of the seat heater accessory. The recall is expected to begin on July 14, 2016. Owners may contact SET customer service at 1-866-405-4226. SET number for this recall is SET16B.

#### Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Sarah Mcshane who may be reached by phone at 202-366-7401, or by email at sarah.mcshane@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Timian

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations

Enforcement

